

ALBANY HIGHWAY, NEERIGEN BROOK BRIDGE

381. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport:

Some notice of this question has been given. I refer to the public notice that six weeks of work will be undertaken on the Albany Highway bridge over Neerigen Brook to strengthen and refurbish it.

- (1) Given that the bridge is only two years old, can the minister explain why such extensive work is necessary?
- (2) Can the minister confirm that the strengthening work is necessary because of the proposed trial involving 36.5 metre road trains?
- (3) What is the cost of these bridge works?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The bridge was constructed in 1957. The proposed works involve upgrading the bridge to meet the load capacity requirements of the draft Australian standards.
- (2) The existing bridge can accommodate standard 36.5 metre road trains and the strengthening work is not required as part of the proposed road train trial.
- (3) \$146 047.