

SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN RAIL, EPA

**1075. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:**

- (1) Following the answer to question without notice 985 of 16 November in this House by the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for the Environment, when will the plans for the south west metropolitan rail from Perth to Mandurah be finalised and made public?
- (2) Given that other projects have been held up because final Environmental Protection Authority approval had not been obtained prior to tenders being released, why was this project commenced without finalisation of the EPA requirements?
- (3) How much soil is contaminated in the Perth yard to Narrows Bridge section of the south west metropolitan rail?
- (4) What are the classes of contamination and the volumes of each class?
- (5) In shifting the contamination, what safety measures have been put in place to prevent any issue with the public?

**Hon KEN TRAVERS replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. I am advised -

- (1)-(2) Environmental approval was obtained on 14 November 2003 before the tender was awarded. The contamination assessment and management plan had been prepared and was in place prior to commencement of the city project site works. The plan is being reviewed and will be made public when the review is complete. The Public Transport Authority expects that this will take about three weeks.
- (3) The PTA's investigations indicate that there is approximately 25 000 cubic metres of contaminated material in this zone. This figure is far less than that encountered in the redevelopments at Minim Cove, of 320 000 cubic metres, and East Perth, 46 000 cubic metres, and at the Graham Farmer Freeway.
- (4) The contaminated material classes and volumes are: acid sulfate soil and potential acid sulfate soil, 20 000 cubic metres; and soils containing concentrations of other contaminants exceeding ecological investigation levels and requiring disposal to classes I, II, III and IV landfill in accordance with Department of Environment guidelines, 5 000 cubic metres.
- (5) Excavation and disposal of contaminated material is being carried out in accordance with the regulations and guidelines of the relevant statutory authorities, including all necessary measures for ensuring that public and site safety is maintained.