

PORT GEOGRAPHE, ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

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

Following the minister's response to my question on notice 2127 on the environmental disasters at Port Geographe, I ask -

- (1) Can the minister advise what stage the working group chaired by Hon Adele Farina is at with regard to the technical study being undertaken to review the current situation?
- (2) Will the findings of the working group be provided in report form?
- (3) If so, when can residents expect to have access to a copy of this report?
- (4) Has stage 2 of the two-year bypassing program been completed by Axiom Properties Ltd?
- (5) If not, why not?
- (6) Is the minister aware that the developer did not remove the required meterage of sand in the first year of the bypass program?
- (7) If so, what action was taken, other than setting up the working group?

**Hon KEN TRAVERS replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Port Geographe working group is currently preparing a consultant's brief for the technical study. It is anticipated that the consultant's brief will be presented to the working group on 14 October 2004 for approval, and then released for quotes from the industry.
- (2) The consultant will be required to prepare a comprehensive report to the working group.
- (3) It is anticipated that the study will take 12 months to complete.
- (4) No.
- (5) The work is programmed for completion on 1 December 2004.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) Axiom Properties has provided a long-term management plan for sand bypass/seagrass wrack management that will catch up with the required quantities and maintain them. This is currently being assessed by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Shire of Busselton.