

RESERVES (NEERABUP NATIONAL PARK) BILL 2000

21. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- (1) Has the approximately 525 hectares of privately held land together with approximately 47 hectares of existing 'reserved' land been incorporated into the national park as compensation for lands excised under the *Reserves (Neerabup National Park) Bill 2000*?
 - (2) What funds were set aside for these acquisitions and how much has been spent acquiring land?
 - (3) Has land proposed for acquisition, or land already acquired, been assessed for its conservation status and if so by whom?
 - (4) If the compensation land has not been acquired what is the timetable for acquisition?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) I would like to clarify the figures quoted by Hon Jim Scott. Approximately 525 hectares of private land together with approximately 47 hectares of existing Crown reserves have been identified for their incorporation into the national park as compensation for approximately 202 hectares of land to be excised, including 122 hectares identified under the Reserves (Neerabup National Park) Bill 2000.
- (2) The purchase of private lands to become national park will be undertaken by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) using Metropolitan Region Improvement Funds. The WAPC will recoup some costs from Westrail, Main Roads WA and the Water Corporation based on the area of land each agency has required for their respective public work.
- (3) Yes. The areas for inclusion were based on their conservation values and the consolidation of the national park boundaries. I believe an assessment of the areas for inclusion were assessed by V&C Semeniuk Research Group during the North West Corridor planning process.
- (4) The land in question is currently protected from development by reservation under the Metropolitan Scheme for Parks and Recreation and will be purchased to a timetable that takes into account the owner's requirements. One property is currently the subject of a claim for compensation in the Supreme Court following the WAPC's refusal of a development application.