

WASTE MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION, INTRODUCTION

2156. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

Further to Question No. 811 of June 26 2002, and Question No. 195 of October 22 2002 regarding the introduction of a *Waste Management Bill* -

- (1) Will the Minister explain why a *Waste Management Bill* has not been introduced into Parliament despite the promise?
- (2) When will this Bill be introduced?
- (3) In view of the continuing pollution of our underground water supplies by domestic and industrial waste, why has the Government failed to keep this important commitment?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The Minister for the Environment has provided the following response:

- (1) The Drafting Instructions for the proposed Waste Management Bill are in the final stages of preparation, in particular, to reflect the outcomes of the Strategic Direction for Waste Management in Western Australia, which also is nearing completion. A policy position paper on extended producer responsibility has also been prepared, on the request of Cabinet. It is very important that both the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) position paper and Strategic Direction work inform the development of the drafting instructions as they will contribute substantially to the policy underpinning of the proposed legislation.
- (2) I am advised that both the drafting instruction and EPR position paper will shortly be provided to me for consideration. It is expected that the Bill would be introduced into Parliament in the first half of 2005.
- (3) The government has initiated a number of important measures to address waste and its impact on the environment through improvements in regulation of activities that generated waste, enhanced enforcement capabilities and a comprehensive process to establish a hazardous waste precinct in Western Australia.