

EWINGTON OPEN CUT COALMINE - BUFFER AREA

248. Hon CHRISTINE SHARP to the minister representing the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Can the minister confirm that on 7 August the Shire of Collie received a notice of intention from residents to sue over the mining buffer area at Ewington open cut coalmine?
- (2) Is the minister aware of how this situation has arisen?
- (3) What is being done to bring the situation to a speedy conclusion?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(3) The Minister for Local Government is unaware of legal action and is therefore unable to comment on it.

FISHERIES BUILDING - HILLARYS BOAT HARBOUR

2. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the minister representing the Minister for Fisheries:

- (1) Has the proposed fisheries building at Hillarys Boat Harbour passed all necessary planning approvals?
- (2) If no, when is approval expected?
- (3) Has an analysis been done on the effect the building will have on parking at the boat harbour?
- (4) If yes, what did the analysis show and will the minister table a copy of it?
- (5) Have any other locations been considered for the proposed building?
- (6) Why is it necessary for the facility to be moved from its current location?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Yes, it was on 26 May 2000.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) I understand the analysis is detailed; therefore, the minister is happy to arrange a briefing for the member on the development application approval, which includes an analysis.
- (5) Yes. All possible sites between Two Rocks and Cockburn Sound were considered against a strict set of criteria, which resulted in the Hillarys site being selected as the only site that met all critical criteria.
- (6) The future requirements of the existing facility are beyond its design capacity and are constraining the required research capacity to ensure sustainable management of the State's fish and fish habitat resources. Assessment of the current Western Australian Maritime Research Laboratory site has shown that the redevelopment extensions are not possible owing to the site's physical limitations.