

**STATE FOREST NO 56, PARTIAL REVOCATION**

*Motion*

Resumed from 16 October on the following motion moved by Dr J.M. Edwards (Minister for the Environment) -

That the proposal for the partial revocation of state forest No 56, laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday, 14 October 2003, by command of His Excellency the Governor be carried out.

**MR P.D. OMODEI** (Warren-Blackwood) [11.00 am]: I support the motion for the partial revocation of state forest No 56. Although I have not met Mr Heron, he has made contact with my office, and I have also been contacted by the Department of Conservation and Land Management and offered a briefing on this issue. I know that Hon Barry House has been briefed, and that Mr Heron met with both Hon Barry House and the Minister for Peel and the South West on this issue. The Opposition has no problem with the proposal, which seems to be commonsense. The two properties involved are a truncation of state forest No 56, adjoining lot 2 Osmington Road and the newly built Margaret River airstrip. I understand S & J Properties Pty Ltd owns lot 2 Osmington Road and that a development approval has been given by the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River for 12 chalets, manager's quarters and a dam. I understand that the Department of Conservation and Land Management, in particular Mr Jim Sharp, has been consulting with S & J Properties and the proposal is to enter into a land swap arrangement with the Conservation Commission. S & J Properties will provide to the State of Western Australia a 10-hectare portion of land in the Nannup shire, at location 28, lot 3 Vasse Highway, in exchange for 2 000 square metres of wind-affected land with no relevant signs of flora and fauna, adjacent to lot 2 Osmington Road. The swap is well and truly in favour of the Government, and will facilitate S & J Properties in carrying out its development, with access directly to the airstrip. The Margaret River airport is very good, but there is not a lot of Government-owned land around it to allow for expansion. That is the proposal in a nutshell. Obviously CALM and the Conservation Commission of Western Australia have thoroughly scrutinised the proposal. The fact that it has come before the Parliament so quickly is an indication that it is straightforward. I wish S & J Properties well in its endeavours. Hopefully this will be yet another successful development in the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River, and the people of Western Australia will be benefactors from the swap of the land on Vasse Highway north of Nannup, which I understand has high conservation value. The Opposition therefore supports this revocation motion.

**DR J.M. EDWARDS** (Maylands - Minister for the Environment) [11.03 am]: Very briefly, I thank the member for Warren-Blackwood for his comments, and the member for Vasse for the discussions we had on this matter last week.

Question put and passed.