

ALCOA WAGERUP REFINERY, BUFFER ZONE

**419. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:**

- (1) Is the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure and/or the department aware of the proposal to create a buffer zone around the Alcoa Wagerup refinery?
- (2) Can the minister inform the House -
  - (a) on what basis are the boundaries to be set;
  - (b) what compensation will be paid to affected land-holders for the resultant loss of land values;
  - (c) who will pay for this compensation; and
  - (d) will the boundaries be set based on the current level of production or the proposed expanded production levels?

**Hon G.T. GIFFARD replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No formal proposals for such a buffer zone have been received. The Minister for Planning and Infrastructure understands that Alcoa Australia is currently assessing its possible buffer requirements and is discussing these with state government departments, local government and the local community.
- (2)
  - (a) The minister understands the possible boundaries of a buffer zone will be considered on the basis of noise and odour impacts.
  - (b) It is premature to raise the issue of compensation. The minister understands the company, in consultation with the local community, is examining a range of possible options which, among other things, includes land purchase at fair market value.
  - (c) Under the Western Australian Planning Commission's state industrial buffer policy, the company would be responsible for costs associated with securing a buffer.
  - (d) The minister understands that expanded production levels would be considered in relation to the issue of a possible buffer zone.