

AGRI-FOOD PROCESSING PLANT — BUREKUP

4200. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

The South West Agri-food Committee is proposing an agri-food processing plant be built at Burekup on land owned by mining company Doral. The site that has been earmarked for the project is two kilometres from the townsite. The Minister has said the Government was involved in the project by providing technical advice through the Department of Agriculture and Food and the South West Development Commission (SWDC). Can he now advise:

- (a) what other locations have been identified as potential sites for the agri-food processing plant;
- (b) what impact studies have been done on dust, truck movements, noise pollution and air pollution;
- (c) what other industrial uses are intended for the site other than an abattoir;
- (d) what consultation has occurred between the Department of Agriculture and Food and the SWDC and the following groups:
 - (i) Shire of Dardanup;
 - (ii) local land owners;
 - (iii) Burekup townsite business operators; and
 - (iv) Main Roads Department; and
- (e) what Environment Protection Authority studies have been commissioned?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) A public Expression of Interest (EOI) process run by the South West Development Commission (SWDC) on behalf of the South West Agri-food Precinct Group resulted in five responses. Responses to the EOI are confidential.
- (b) The South West Development Commission on behalf of the South West Agri-food Precinct group is considering a consultancy to conduct a due diligence/fatal flaw study of the preferred site at Burekup, in which these issues would be addressed.
- (c) The site would be an agri-food processing precinct and would not be restricted to abattoirs. Other possible uses include processing of dairy and horticultural products from the South West region. The site would also be available for any industries that are compatible with food processing.
- (d) (i) A preliminary meeting has been held between SWDC, Doral and the Shire.
 - (ii) A public meeting, hosted by the South West Agri-food Precinct Group (SWAPG), was held with more than 100 Burekup residents on 30 September 2010, to provide preliminary information on the concept of an agri-food processing precinct. The decision was made to engage the community at an early stage before having all studies completed, so that the community is aware of and has input into the project as it progresses.

There is an ongoing commitment to provide information to the community on a regular basis and a community representative has been appointed to the SWAPG as a result of a Shire run EOI process.
 - (iii) Same as (d)(ii).
 - (iv) This will be conducted as part of the due diligence process.
- (e) This will be conducted as part of the due diligence process.