

WASTE DISPOSAL, CALINGIRI FARM

581. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- (1) Does the Department of Environment intend to allow Atlas to open tip City of Stirling waste material on a farm at Calingiri without adequate knowledge of what material is going to the farm and what material is left, after the composting process?
 - (2) What steps will the Government take to test and accurately measure the waste before paying rebate to Atlas?
 - (3) Is the Calingiri farm situated over an underground water aquifer or in an important catchment area?
 - (4) How are the organic waste storage and treatment areas at Calingiri sealed to prevent contamination of ground-water?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) Atlas transports compost to Calingiri and the department is satisfied with the measures in place to control the risk of pollution.
- (2) The Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme payments are not made to Atlas, but to the City of Stirling. The procedures for assessing the Resource Rebate Recovery Scheme payment are outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Environmental Protection and the Western Australian Local Government Association.

However, the Waste Management Board is reviewing the Rebate Scheme.
- (3) The Atlas farm at Calingiri has been assessed by the DEP, with advice from the Water and Rivers Commission. The facility is outside of the water resource for the Calingiri town water supply and will not therefore impact on important underground or surface water supplies. Groundwater may underlie the site, but the department considers adequate pollution control measures are in place at Calingiri.
- (4) The DEP has advised that the hardstand area is constructed of compacted gravel and clay.