

MINING ACT AMENDMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIONS

473. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Keating Report, *Review of the Project Development Approvals System*, made a recommendation that the *Mining Act* should be amended to ensure that environmental objections are not heard in the Mining Warden's Court?
 - (2) Does the Minister support this recommendation?
 - (3) Did the Minister make a submission to this Committee?
 - (4) If so, what comments were made on the matter of removing the Mining Warden's ability to hear environmental objections?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The recommendation to which you refer is contained in what is an Interim Report and the proposals put forward in the Report are intended to generate discussion and comment. The final report will then be considered by Government.
- (3) No. A submission has been made by the EPA.
- (4) Not applicable.