

JAMES POINT LIVESTOCK HOLDING FACILITY, SOCIAL IMPACT STUDY

218. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- (1) Why is there no requirement in the PER process for a Social Impact Study of the James Point Livestock holding facility proposal?
 - (2) Why was a Social Impact Study required for the Koolyanobbing rail facility and not considered important enough for the James Point Holding Proposal, when both proposals involve the loss of beach area to the public?
 - (3) Will the Minister require that a Social Impact Study be undertaken of this proposal given the adverse impact of the proposal on the Town of Kwinana, both socially, environmentally and economically?
 - (4) Is the Minister aware that the Town of Kwinana has initiated an amendment to its Town Planning Scheme for the purposes of prohibiting Livestock Holdings in the General Industrial Zone?
 - (5) Will the Minister support the Town of Kwinana's Planning Scheme Amendment for the Kwinana Industrial Estate?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) There is no requirement in the Public Environmental Review process for a social impact study because the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) is already considering issues that relate to the social surrounds and amenity of residents, and workers in the Kwinana area in its environmental assessment, to the extent that it is legally able to under the Environmental Protection Act 1986.
- (2) A formal assessment of the Koolyanobbing rail facility proposal was required as a result of the then Minister for the Environment's decision to uphold the appeals against the level of assessment set by the EPA for the proposal. The appeal decision required the EPA to examine the impacts of the loss of recreational enjoyment due to the visual impacts of the proposal. The EPA did not examine the loss of beach area to the public.

In terms of the James Point Port proposal, the Minister for the Environment and Heritage has advised that the EPA has required the proponent to address the issue of beach access in the Public Environmental Review process.
- (3) The Minister for the Environment and Heritage will await the EPA's report and recommendations before considering whether further information is required on any matters, including social impacts, that is identified as being beyond the scope of the EPA's role in providing independent advice to Government on environmental issues.
- (4) Yes. The Minister for the Environment and Heritage has been advised by the Department of Environmental Protection of the amendment to the Town of Kwinana's Town Planning Scheme.
- (5) The question of support for the Town of Kwinana's Planning Scheme Amendment is best directed to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure.