

WATERWAYS, OESTROGEN LEVELS

**1575. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:**

Regarding oestrogen levels in Western Australian waterways, I ask -

- (1) Is the minister aware that research conducted in Melbourne and Sydney has revealed that treated sewage outflow in these areas had residual oestrogens or oestrogen-like agents that have already produced deformities and distorted reproductive development in male fish, and are suspected of deformities in humans?
- (2) Is there currently any monitoring of health defects that might be associated with hormone disruptors?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) Is the minister aware that hypospadias is an indicator of potential hormonal disruption caused by toxic chemicals in the environment?
- (5) Has there been an increase in Western Australia in the incidence of hypospadias in newborn boys within the last 10 years?

**Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No. However, this will be investigated.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.