

CANNING RIVER, SEWAGE LEAKAGE

1223. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

- (1) What action has the Government taken against the Water Corporation over the leak of sewage into the Canning River in May?
- (2) Was this incident investigated by the Environmental Enforcement Unit?
- (3) Is a copy of the report available and if so, where?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The Minister for the Environment has provided the following response:

- (1) The Pollution Response Unit from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Swan River Trust, Department of Health (DoH) and the Water Corporation investigated the discharge of 125 kL sewage overflow into the Canning River in May 2003. The Water Corporation has provided a report of the incident to the DEP, however upon review of the report, the DEP sought further information which was provided on 25 September 2003. The DEP is now reviewing the additional reports to determine whether there is any link to previous spills so as to ascertain whether there could be a case for the EEU to take further actions.
- (2) No, the Pollution Response Unit from the DEP, the DoH and Water Corporation investigated the sewage spillage incident.
- (3) Once the investigation is fully completed, a report will be made and the EEU will be in a clearer position to determine what course of action it will take and the level of enforcement. The DoH has completed an incident report (Sewage Spill into Canning River Corner of Rockwood Street and the Esplanade, Mount Pleasant, 8 July 2003) of the sewage spill detailing the incident, sampling and the sample results as mentioned above, and that report is available from the DoH.