

GERALDTON PORT — IRON ORE EXPORTS

1289. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Ports:

I refer to the minister's response to question without notice 1215 regarding the environmental licence conditions that apply to the export of iron ore product at the port of Geraldton. Given the prevailing wind conditions and very close proximity of the port to residential and commercial properties and schools within the City of Geraldton–Greenough, can the minister explain why the current dust suppression methods applied to the export of iron ore at the port of Geraldton are not equivalent to those used at the port of Esperance for the past two decades?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

Mid West Ports Authority holds and complies with its environmental licence conditions as issued by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. Mid West Ports Authority works closely with each of the five iron ore exporters to ensure compliance through active, live monitoring of dust levels using approved air quality monitoring stations and visual means.