Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 29 November 2011] p9965b-9965b Hon Dr Sally Talbot; Hon Helen Morton

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY — APPOINTMENT OF ELIZABETH CARR TO BOARD

4958. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment

In relation to the appointment of Elizabeth Carr to the board of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), I ask —

- (1) What positions did Ms Carr hold in the Western Australian Department of State Development?
- (2) What dates were these positions held?
- (3) Has Ms Carr disclosed a conflict of interest under s.12 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986?
- (4) When was this conflict of interest disclosed?
- (5) When did Ms Carr discuss with EPA Chairman, Paul Vogel, her previous involvement in the Browse LNG proposal?
- (6) Did Ms Carr discuss with the Minister her previous involvement in the Browse LNG proposal?
- (7) If yes to (6), when?
- (8) When was it agreed that Ms Carr would abstain from any EPA decision on the proposal?
- (9) Will abstaining from EPA decisions on the proposal mean that Ms Carr receives briefing papers on the proposal and attends meetings of the EPA at which the proposal is discussed?
- (10) What restrictions will be placed on Ms Carr's activities as an EPA Board member as a result of the agreement that Ms Carr will abstain from any EPA decision on the proposal?
- (11) What other disclosures under s.12 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* were made by Authority Members in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011? Please provide details of these disclosures.

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

- (1) Executive Director Browse.
- (2) July 2009–February 2011.
- (3)–(4) Ms Carr has declared a potential conflict of interest with regard to assessment of the Browse LNG proposal at EPA meetings 1016 and 1017 (27 October 2011 and 10 November 2011).
- (5)–(8) Ms Carr discussed her previous involvement in the Browse LNG proposal shortly after being appointed and it was agreed that she would remove herself from any discussion or decision on the proposal.
- (9)–(10) Ms Carr will not receive briefing papers related to assessment of the Browse LNG proposal. Ms Carr may attend meetings but will remove herself from the meeting for any Item concerning the proposal.
- (11) [See paper 4131.] for a list of potential conflicts of interests declared at the EPA meetings during the last six months.