

MARINE FINFISH NURSERY — GERALDTON

332. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to the finfish nursery in Geraldton.

- (1) Does the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development have a new time line for this project to proceed; and, if yes, what are the revised dates of construction and operation?
- (2) How many jobs is the facility intended to create directly? Please provide a breakdown of part-time, full-time and casual.
- (3) How much has Aquaculture Consultancy and Engineering, the Netherlands-based engineering consultant, been paid to date?
- (4) Is it now DPIRD policy to not proceed with certain infrastructure projects unless a legally binding agreement has been signed; and, if yes, when was this change made?

Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1) A time frame has not been established and is subject to the current review.
- (2) During construction, we anticipate up to 50 full-time local jobs. When operating, the nursery will require a minimum of four full-time and two part-time positions.
- (3) Aquaculture Consultancy and Engineering has been paid \$77 951.
- (4) There is no specific policy in this respect as the circumstances of each project will differ and require case-by-case consideration.