

ESPERANCE PORT — NICKEL AND COPPER CONCENTRATE EXPORT

505. Mr C.J. TALLENTIRE to the Minister for Environment:

I have a supplementary question. Given the problems in Esperance with ambient air quality levels, why is the minister ceasing monthly ambient air quality reporting and reducing it to 12-monthly reporting—also in light of the proposal I referred to?

Mr A.P. JACOB replied:

Again, I thank the member for the question. I think he made reference to the legacy of the lead issue in Esperance left by predecessors to this government, which was one of the first issues this government had to deal with when it came to power.

Mr C.J. Tallentire interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Gosnells!

Mr A.P. JACOB: When I first became Minister for Environment, I made a point of visiting what is now the Department of Environment Regulation. I went through that compliance division and I can tell the member that there is still a key room in its offices with photos on the wall of what had to be dealt with in Esperance.

Mr C.J. Tallentire interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Gosnells! Have you finished, minister?

Mr A.P. JACOB: What happened in Esperance will never be forgotten in the Department of Environment Regulation and it will always be foremost in our minds as we regulate proposals going forward.