

RAILWAY — BRUCE ROCK–YILLIMINNING

21. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Can the minister confirm that the Bruce Rock to Yilliminning rail line will cease operations in June 2011?
- (2) How does the government expect the next harvest will be transported to port from this area?
- (3) Which roads will be upgraded to replace this rail line?
- (4) When will they be upgraded?
- (5) What standards, including width of seal, will they be upgraded to?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for notice of the question.

- (1) Yes, the line is scheduled to cease operations by the end of June 2011.
- (2) The majority of grain will be transported by road to bins at Brookton and Kellerberrin for cartage by rail to port. In accordance with current practices a proportion of grain will continue to travel by road direct to port to reach marketers' schedules.
- (3) The roads noted below were identified in the initial road selection process: Wickepin–Pingelly–Brookton; Brookton Bin Access Roads; Wickepin–Cuballing–Brookton; Yealering–Bulyee; the Bullaring section of the Wickepin–Corrigin Road; the Corrigin to Brookton section of the Brookton Highway; and the Ainsworth to Bruce Rock link. Main Roads Western Australia is currently communicating with affected local governments to confirm and prioritise road routes. Once this process has been finalised, there may be further changes.
- (4) The roadworks program is currently being developed by Main Roads Western Australia in conjunction with affected local governments.
- (5) Seven-metre sealed width.

Hon Ken Travers interjected.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: That's a lot more than your lot ever did!