

EXMOUTH WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

1234. Hon KEN BASTON to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources:

Given that the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure believes that oil, gas and mining companies are looking at Exmouth as a possible hub for their activities, and further noting that WA Tourism figures show an increase in overnight visitors from 524 900 in 2003-04 to 739 600 in 2006-07 -

- (1) Is the minister aware that the location of the current waste water treatment plant presents a barrier to development?
- (2) In light of the increased visitor numbers and foreshadowed developments, has consideration been given to building a new treatment plant and closing the old plant by December 2010?
- (3) Has a preliminary study been completed into the cost of the new treatment plant; and, if yes, what is that cost?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank Hon Ken Baston for some notice of this question.

- (1) The existing waste water treatment plant is able to cope with the recent and projected growth at Exmouth and does not present a barrier to proposed development. The Water Corporation will time relocation to coincide with the need to upgrade.
- (2) Current planning indicates that relocation will not be required until 2016.
- (3) The first step for relocation is to secure the land. A site has been identified in the Department of Defence's communication base, and a total estimated cost of relocation is around \$14 million.