

SOUTH METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE

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

Last week in this house the minister questioned the long-term viability of the South Metropolitan Regional Council Resource Recovery Centre at Canning Vale.

- (1) Is the minister going to actually do something to address the impact of the centre on local residents; and, if so, what?
- (2) Has he considered any alternatives for relocating the centre?
- (3) If yes to (2), what are his alternatives?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)–(3) Currently, as the member will be aware, as will some members behind me, the SMRC facility is licensed by DEC. The facility has a problem with odour. The director general of the Department of Environment and Conservation, who is responsible for granting a licence, has given the SMRC until the end of December to meet some conditions attached to the SMRC's licence; it is changing the equipment and the process so that the odour will be under control.

Mr C.J. Tallentire interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Gosnells!

Mr W.R. MARMION: The number of complaints about the odour have dropped considerably since this work has been undertaken.

Mr C.J. Tallentire: A lot of noise complaints.

Mr W.R. MARMION: That is correct. A few people have been complaining about the noise because of the construction work. The Department of Environment and Conservation staff have gone out there to examine the noise. They have confirmed that some of the noise that they recorded is due to the construction and they have recommended that some baffles be put on some of the design construction. We are going through a process.

Mr C.J. Tallentire interjected.

Mr W.R. MARMION: I am happy to wait until December. They have until December to do these constructions. Why would we step in ahead of December and say, "The department has changed its mind; we'll shut it down"? I am very comfortable with the process. I am hopeful that in December all the construction work will be finished. There will be no odour and the issue about noise will be reconciled as well.