

KALGOORLIE — MAJOR FREIGHT INTERCHANGE

3059. Hon Ken Travers to the minister representing the Minister for Transport
- (1) Has the State Government conducted a feasibility study of a major freight interchange near Kalgoorlie?
 - (2) If yes to (1) —
 - (a) when did the study commence; and
 - (b) how much is budgeted to be spent on it?
 - (3) Has the study been completed, and what were the findings of the study?
 - (4) If no to (3) —
 - (a) when will study be completed; and
 - (b) will the findings be made public?
 - (5) If yes to (4)(b), when?
 - (6) If no to (1), does the Government intend to conduct a study?
 - (7) If yes to (6) —
 - (a) when will the study commence;
 - (b) when will it be completed; and
 - (c) how much will be spent on it?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1) Previous State Governments have conducted two studies involving the potential development of an intermodal freight terminal at Kalgoorlie.
- (2) (a) In 1999 the Department for Transport commissioned Sinclair Knight Merz
In 2006 the Department of Planning and Infrastructure commissioned ARRB Consulting to assess the suitability of current intermodal freight facilities servicing Kalgoorlie and the region
(b) Both studies were completed some years ago. The 2006 ARRB study cost nearly \$80 000
- (3) The 2006 ARRB study concluded the existing ARG container terminal is appropriate for the heavy volume of rail freight activity servicing the city and its mining region. At the time of the two studies, there was no clear consensus on whether to develop a second terminal, how it should be funded and operated and where it should be sited.
- (4) (a)-(b) Not applicable
- (5) Not applicable
- (6) The Regional Freight Transport Plan being undertaken by the Department of Transport will include a high level assessment of the need and feasibility of an intermodal terminal in Kalgoorlie.
The fundamental issue of whether interstate trains would use the terminal has never been satisfactorily resolved. This presents the most considerable impediment to developing a terminal and will again be reviewed.
- (7) (a)-(c) Not applicable