

TOXIC SPILLAGE — PARAQUAT

1096. Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the spillage of the toxic herbicide paraquat through Maddington and Kewdale, which was reported on 29 January 2014, and ask:

- (a) who was responsible for the spillage; and
- (b) what penalties have been paid by those responsible?

Hon Ken Baston replied:

The Department of Mines and Petroleum advises:

- (a) The Dangerous Goods Safety Branch of the Department of Mines and Petroleum was called in to assist with initial enquiries regarding the incident, but responsibility for undertaking the clean-up of the spillage was undertaken by the HEAT/HAZMAT team under the jurisdiction of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the Department of Environment Regulation.
- (b) Responsibility for penalties rests with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the Department of Environment Regulation.