

VASSE COAL PROJECT — ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

1847. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority and ask:

- (a) is the Minister satisfied that the decision to block the development of the Vasse Coal Project by LD Operations Ltd was a transparent and fair process; and
- (b) if yes, can the Minister explain how the decision was made in a fair and transparent manner?

Mr A.P. Jacob replied:

- (a) Yes. The Vasse Coal proposal was considered in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Protection Act (1986)*.
- (b) The proposal was assessed by the Environmental Protection Authority and the Environmental Protection Authority published its report and recommendations (Report 1395) in May 2011.

The then Minister for Environment considered appeals received against the Environmental Protection Authority's report and recommendations and after consulting decision — making authorities and Ministers it was the decision of the Government that the proposal may not be implemented.