

WATER CORPORATION — DENMARK RIVER DAM REVERSE OSMOSIS UNITS

**589. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Water:**

- (1) Why is the Water Corporation planning to release the waste from the Denmark River dam reverse osmosis units into a drain that discharges onto Perkins Beach in the City of Albany?
- (2) What quantity of waste is planned to be released at Perkins Beach on an annual basis?
- (3) What studies have been undertaken to ensure that the waste will be adequately dispersed by any wave action and water currents in that location?
- (4) What community consultation has been done; and, if none, why not?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Water —

- (1) Perkins Beach was selected as the preferred brine disposal location, as access to the coast around Denmark is constrained.
- (2) It is expected there will be a maximum of 60 kilolitres of brine disposed a day, six days a week, for up to six months.
- (3) The Department of Environment Regulation does not require any studies to be undertaken as this project is small and of a temporary nature.
- (4) Consultation with the local shire commenced on 17 April 2015. The Water Corporation enacted its plan to engage with local Perkins Road residents to inform them of the brine disposal proposal on Monday, 18 May 2015. A briefing for the Torbay Catchment Group and other environmental groups, along with other interested members of the public, is scheduled for Thursday, 21 May 2015.