

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY — GOVERNANCE PRACTICES CHANGE

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

I have a supplementary question. I refer to the minister's comments in September last year when he said that he had fixed the problem. Why did the minister mislead the Parliament, when he clearly had not fixed the problem?

Mr A.P. JACOB replied:

There are two points to that. A substantial question is: will you find a single conflict of interest matter since September last year? No. Has the code of conduct been further tightened up to ensure that is so? Yes. That is precautionary work and I expect that it will have regular reviews. That is a complete non-issue. The issue here is that the member for Gosnells ran straight out and sought to besmirch and sought to smear the Public Sector Commissioner, who is one of the most respected senior public servants in this state. Members opposite are muckrakers, they go straight to the gutter every single time, and we will not play that game on this matter.