

BEMAX RESOURCES LTD — HAPPY VALLEY MINE

Petition

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [9.01 am]: I have a petition signed by 13 people that has been certified as conforming to the standing orders of the house. The petition concerns the Environmental Protection Authority's recommendations against mining in the Whicher Scarp, and reads —

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned, say that we wholeheartedly support the recommendation of the Environmental Protection Authority that Bemax Resources Limited not be allowed to mine at Happy Valley, in the Whicher Scarp because, as the EPA found,

- the proposal will result in unacceptable impacts to the outstanding, diverse and varied natural values of the Whicher Scarp, including its diverse and rich flora, restricted and rare wetland communities, highly endemic flora, more than 60 rare species, 60 species at the end of their range, more than 100 species with disjunct populations and its high degree of intactness of native vegetation;
- the area has been significantly impacted by mineral sands mining and nearly the entire Whicher Scarp is subject to current exploration licences or mining leases
- the EPA is unlikely to support any further development on the Whicher Scarp;
- Bemax Resources Limited's proposal cannot be managed to meet the EPA's objectives in relation to flora and vegetation, conservation significant fauna and habitat, rehabilitation, and noise;

and the EPA has recommended against approval and has not provided draft conditions.

Now we ask that the Legislative Assembly endorse the EPA's recommendation.

[See petition 432.]