

BROOME ROAD INDUSTRIAL PARK — NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARANCE

**390. Mr C.J. TALLENTIRE to the Minister for Environment:**

I refer to native vegetation destruction that the minister has authorised at LandCorp's Broome Road industrial park, north of Broome.

- (1) Is the minister aware that the greater bilby is a threatened species under the commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and a schedule 1 species under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950?
- (2) Why did the minister fail to halt vegetation clearing as soon as he was informed that a population of greater bilby had been found in an area being bulldozed?
- (3) Can the minister confirm that the area being cleared also contains a priority 1 ecological community of *Corymbia paractia*, Cable Beach white gum, which has been listed by the WA threatened ecological community scientific committee?

**Mr A.P. JACOB replied:**

(1)–(3) Yes, I am aware in the instance of the bilby. What was the site in Broome again?

**Mr C.J. Tallentire:** It is north of Broome at the Broome Road industrial park.

**Mr A.P. JACOB:** I have seen a number of proposals come through for that prime industrial park. I am aware one has recently been under investigation or, indeed, is still under investigation. However, I make the point that clearing permits generally are conducted via a delegated authority through the Department of Environment Regulation, albeit the clearing principles are governed through the Environmental Protection Act, and they are quite robust clearing principles. On that particular question, the only time it comes to the Minister for Environment is if it is done for clearing under part V of the Environmental Protection Act and there is an appeal in relation to that clearing permit. I cannot recall that specific one having come to me as an appeal clearing permit; however, I am happy to take that information on board and investigate that particular project further.