

TRUCK TURNAROUND FACILITIES — GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY

1209. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Can the minister confirm whether discussions have taken place between Main Roads, local government and the Department of Environment and Conservation with a view to installing truck turnaround points at appropriate locations on the Great Eastern Highway?
- (2) If yes, will the construction of these turnaround points proceed and will they include appropriate signage to ensure they are kept clear and not used for either parking and/or camping?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) There have been no formal discussions about truck turnaround facilities with either the Department of Environment and Conservation or local government since the Boorabbin bushfires. As a result of the fire, Main Roads undertook a review of all existing and potential truck bays between Northam and Coolgardie. From this assessment, potential sites suitable for a modification to allow a large configuration of vehicles to turn around have been identified.
- (2) A fund submission was made under the heavy vehicle safety and productivity program in August 2008. Unfortunately, this submission was unsuccessful. Main Roads is still looking at possible funding sources for these facility upgrades. In relation to the type of facility, it is proposed to utilise existing bays that are modified to accommodate parking and for turnaround if the need arises.