Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Wednesday, 15 February 2023] p219c-219c Hon Dr Brad Pettitt; Hon Stephen Dawson

ALCOA — BAUXITE — SERPENTINE DAM

39. Hon Dr BRAD PETTITT to the minister representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade:

I refer to Alcoa's mining of bauxite near Serpentine Dam.

- (1) What are the current risks to Serpentine Dam due to bauxite mining?
- (2) Will these risks be made worse with Alcoa's new mining management plan application?
- (3) Have these risks been assessed?
- (4) If yes to (3), will the minister please table these assessment documents?
- (5) If no to (4), why not?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Possible risks exist in areas with steep gradients and in areas where mining operations clear a large proportion of the total subcatchment.
- (2) Alcoa does not have approval to mine in areas with steep gradients and in areas that clear a large proportion of the total subcatchment.
- (3) Alcoa's draft mine management program for 2023 to 2027 is under assessment by the mine management program liaison group.
- (4) No.
- (5) The assessment is ongoing, and it is not appropriate to release documents that may prejudice the outcome of the assessment or the minister's decision-making.