

WATER CORPORATION — GREENPATCH DEVELOPMENT — ODOUR MODELLING

1534. Hon Ben Dawkins to the parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Water:

I refer the Minister to page 12 of the Water Corporation’s Odour Modelling Study contained in the Water Corporation’s Amendment Report dated 31 March 2010 relating to the *Greater Bunbury Region Scheme Amendment* and the reduction of its wastewater treatment plant odour buffer which states under section 9 in the eighth bullet point, “there is not a strong argument to change the boundary of the buffer zone”; and “applying the precautionary principle is warranted because there is always a degree of uncertainty about the predictions of odour modelling for plants that are still to be designed, constructed and operated”, and I ask:

- (a) given the above statements, why did the Water Corporation agree to the amendment to the *Greater Bunbury Region Scheme* to reduce the odour buffer;
- (b) why did the Water Corporation agree to further reduce the odour buffer from what is shown in Figure 18 of the Study (Further Reduction); and
- (c) did the Department of Housing or any other government agency ask or represent to the Water Corporation to consider reducing its odour buffer or agree to the Further Reduction?

Hon Pierre Yang replied:

- (a) The buffer was amended to conform to cadastral boundaries when it was officially administered by DPLH. This was done to make it more practical for the region scheme and did not impact on the effectiveness of the buffer.
- (b) The further minor adjustment to the amended buffer aligned to updated cadastral boundaries and again did not impact the effectiveness of the buffer.
- (c) No.