

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
QUESTIONS
No. 231
Thursday, 5 November 2020

Questions appear according to the date on which notice was delivered.
When a question has been answered it is removed from the postponed list.

QUESTIONS AWAITING ANSWERS

Notice Given ***Thursday, 8 October 2020***

- 3243. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning
- 3245. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning
- 3247. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning
- 3248. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
- 3256. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 3279. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport;
Planning
- 3286. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3289. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3295. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3297. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport;
Planning
- 3298. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport;
Planning
- 3303. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
- 3322. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport;
Planning
- 3326. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for
Forestry

Notice Given ***Tuesday, 13 October 2020***

- 3327. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment

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Notice Given **Wednesday, 14 October 2020**

3328. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing

Notice Given **Thursday, 15 October 2020**

3329. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

3331. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training

Notice Given **Tuesday, 20 October 2020**

3332. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Industrial Relations

3333. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

3334. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development

3336. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training

3337. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

3338. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health

3339. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection

Notice Given **Wednesday, 21 October 2020**

3340. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development

3341. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development

3342. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development

3343. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development

3344. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development

3345. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development

3346. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development

3347. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health

3348. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection

Notice Given **Thursday, 22 October 2020**

3349. Hon Aaron Stonehouse to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts

3350. Hon Aaron Stonehouse to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts

3351. Hon Aaron Stonehouse to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts

3352. Hon Aaron Stonehouse to the Minister for Environment

3353. Hon Aaron Stonehouse to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Veterans Issues

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3354. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
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3355. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training
3356. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Lands
3357. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment
3358. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
3359. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Road Safety
3360. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
3361. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Disability Services
3362. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
3363. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Seniors and Ageing
3364. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Mental Health
3365. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training
3366. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
3367. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services
3368. Hon Charles Smith to the Minister for Environment
3369. Hon Colin de Grussa to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Fisheries
3370. Hon Colin de Grussa to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Fisheries
3371. Hon Colin de Grussa to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Fisheries
3372. Hon Colin de Grussa to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Fisheries
3373. Hon Colin de Grussa to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Fisheries
3374. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing
3375. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment
3376. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming
3377. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming
3378. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Science
3379. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming

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- 3380. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming
- 3381. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning
- 3382. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming
- 3383. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming
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3394. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the Minister's response to question on notice 1734, that 'DWER no longer intended to progress reclassification of part of Lot 9105 separately, and would instead address this matter in its report on the appeals'. The document *Decision in Respect of Appeal Against Classification Contaminated Sites Committee (CSC 05/2018) Contaminated Sites Act 2003, Part 8, Division 2 for Maidment Parade and Hutt Drive, Dalyellup, otherwise known as the Greenpatch development (the site)* does not document the intention of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) to reclassify a portion of the Greenpatch as 'Remediated for Restricted Use', and I ask:

- (a) did DWER address the matter of its intention to reclassify part of the area as 'Remediated for Restricted Use' during the appeal;
- (b) if yes to (a), why was the reclassification amended from 'Remediated for Restricted Use' to 'Possibly Contaminated Investigation Required' when it was confirmed by DWER the area contained treated solid residue, it was contaminated and needed restriction in use; and
- (c) if no to (a), why not?

3395. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to Satterley's application on 20 January 2020, on behalf of the Department of Communities to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) for a clearing permit on a portion of the Greenpatch to allow test pits to be dug to examine any contamination in the former Eastern Turning Circle (ETC), granted on April 2020, and I refer to the document *Decision in Respect of Appeal Against Classification Contaminated Sites Committee (CSC 05/2018) Contaminated Sites Act 2003, Part 8, Division 2 for the Greenpatch development*, dated 20 October 2020, and I ask:

- (a) is it standard procedure to allow the landowner to repeat soil contamination investigation on a site that is subject to an appeal with the Contaminated Sites Committee especially, when the area being investigated has been assessed multiple times and shown by DWER to be contaminated; and
- (b) if no to (a), why was the permit granted?

3396. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to Alcoa's operations at the Huntley mine, and I ask:

- (a) what are the latest figures on how much forest has been cleared each year since the commencement of the Huntley area operation (i.e. north of Dwellingup);
- (b) how much of the mined area north of Jarrahdale Road is planted exotics or Eastern States trees rather than species indigenous to the area:
 - (i) does the Government intend to remove exotics and non-indigenous species and replant this area with indigenous species;
- (c) given that much of the rehabilitated jarrah forest requires additional management:
 - (i) who will undertake the additional management steps required to restore the forest; and

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- (ii) how much will the restoration cost;
- (d) what impact has bauxite mining and rehabilitation have on the water table and stream flows in the area of the Huntley mine, particularly around Dwellingup:
 - (i) what is the estimated value in dollars of any water losses that have occurred; and
 - (ii) has the Water Corporation had to address any water catchment issues related to activities in the Huntley mine:
 - (A) if yes to (d)(ii), what has Water Corporation had to do, and what was the cost of any actions;
- (e) what financial and other contributions does Alcoa make to the following:
 - (i) the Western Shield programme;
 - (ii) quokka research;
 - (iii) the impact of bauxite mining on hydrological cycles; and
 - (iv) any other research projects or programmes (please specify);
- (f) how many pollution events have occurred near the Serpentine Dam in the Myara South mining area:
 - (i) what were the pollution events;
 - (ii) what was the impact of the pollution events; and
 - (iii) have any negative impacts been remediated;
- (g) does the State Government provide any subsidies or discounts to Alcoa for water or electricity:
 - (i) if yes to (g), please detail the nature and cost of the subsidies or discounts; and
- (h) given that Alcoa is required to provide support to regional communities according to license conditions:
 - (i) which regional communities or townships has Alcoa provided support to;
 - (ii) what form of support has been provided or offered;
 - (iii) what was the dollar value of the support provided; and
 - (iv) what outcomes have been achieved?

3397. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to Alcoa's operations at the Huntley mine, and I ask:

- (a) what are the latest figures on how much forest has been cleared each year since the commencement of the Huntley area operation (i.e. north of Dwellingup);
- (b) how much of the mined area north of Jarrahdale Road is planted exotics or Eastern States trees rather than species indigenous to the area:
 - (i) does the Government intend to remove exotics and non-indigenous species and replant this area with indigenous species;
- (c) given that much of the rehabilitated jarrah forest requires additional management:

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- (i) who will undertake the additional management steps required to restore the forest; and
- (ii) how much will the restoration cost;
- (d) what impact has bauxite mining and rehabilitation have on the water table and stream flows in the area of the Huntley mine, particularly around Dwellingup:
 - (i) what is the estimated value in dollars of any water losses that have occurred; and
 - (ii) has the Water Corporation had to address any water catchment issues related to activities in the Huntley mine:
 - (A) if yes to (d)(ii), what has Water Corporation had to do, and what was the cost of any actions;
- (e) what financial and other contributions does Alcoa make to the following:
 - (i) the Western Shield programme;
 - (ii) quokka research;
 - (iii) the impact of bauxite mining on hydrological cycles; and
 - (iv) any other research projects or programmes (please specify);
- (f) how many pollution events have occurred near the Serpentine Dam in the Myara South mining area:
 - (i) what were the pollution events;
 - (ii) what was the impact of the pollution events; and
 - (iii) have any negative impacts been remediated;
- (g) does the State Government provide any subsidies or discounts to Alcoa for water or electricity:
 - (i) if yes to (g), please detail the nature and cost of the subsidies or discounts; and
- (h) given that Alcoa is required to provide support to regional communities according to license conditions:
 - (i) which regional communities or townships has Alcoa provided support to;
 - (ii) what form of support has been provided or offered;
 - (iii) what was the dollar value of the support provided; and
 - (iv) what outcomes have been achieved?

3398. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water:

I refer to Alcoa's operations at the Huntley mine, and I ask:

- (a) what are the latest figures on how much forest has been cleared each year since the commencement of the Huntley area operation (i.e. north of Dwellingup);
- (b) how much of the mined area north of Jarrahdale Road is planted exotics or Eastern States trees rather than species indigenous to the area:
 - (i) does the Government intend to remove exotics and non-indigenous species and replant this area with indigenous species;

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- (c) given that much of the rehabilitated jarrah forest requires additional management:
 - (i) who will undertake the additional management steps required to restore the forest; and
 - (ii) how much will the restoration cost;
- (d) what impact has bauxite mining and rehabilitation have on the water table and stream flows in the area of the Huntley mine, particularly around Dwellingup:
 - (i) what is the estimated value in dollars of any water losses that have occurred; and
 - (ii) has the Water Corporation had to address any water catchment issues related to activities in the Huntley mine:
 - (A) if yes to (d)(ii), what has Water Corporation had to do, and what was the cost of any actions;
- (e) what financial and other contributions does Alcoa make to the following:
 - (i) the Western Shield programme;
 - (ii) quokka research;
 - (iii) the impact of bauxite mining on hydrological cycles; and
 - (iv) any other research projects or programmes (please specify);
- (f) how many pollution events have occurred near the Serpentine Dam in the Myara South mining area:
 - (i) what were the pollution events;
 - (ii) what was the impact of the pollution events; and
 - (iii) have any negative impacts been remediated;
- (g) does the State Government provide any subsidies or discounts to Alcoa for water or electricity:
 - (i) if yes to (g), please detail the nature and cost of the subsidies or discounts; and
- (h) given that Alcoa is required to provide support to regional communities according to license conditions:
 - (i) which regional communities or townships has Alcoa provided support to;
 - (ii) what form of support has been provided or offered;
 - (iii) what was the dollar value of the support provided; and
 - (iv) what outcomes have been achieved?

3399. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Forestry:

I refer to Alcoa's operations at the Huntley mine, and I ask:

- (a) what are the latest figures on how much forest has been cleared each year since the commencement of the Huntley area operation (i.e. north of Dwellingup);
- (b) how much of the mined area north of Jarrahdale Road is planted exotics or Eastern States trees rather than species indigenous to the area:

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- (i) does the Government intend to remove exotics and non-indigenous species and replant this area with indigenous species;
- (c) given that much of the rehabilitated jarrah forest requires additional management:
 - (i) who will undertake the additional management steps required to restore the forest; and
 - (ii) how much will the restoration cost;
- (d) what impact has bauxite mining and rehabilitation have on the water table and stream flows in the area of the Huntley mine, particularly around Dwellingup:
 - (i) what is the estimated value in dollars of any water losses that have occurred; and
 - (ii) has the Water Corporation had to address any water catchment issues related to activities in the Huntley mine:
 - (A) if yes to (d)(ii), what has Water Corporation had to do, and what was the cost of any actions;
- (e) what financial and other contributions does Alcoa make to the following:
 - (i) the Western Shield programme;
 - (ii) quokka research;
 - (iii) the impact of bauxite mining on hydrological cycles; and
 - (iv) any other research projects or programmes (please specify);
- (f) how many pollution events have occurred near the Serpentine Dam in the Myara South mining area:
 - (i) what were the pollution events;
 - (ii) what was the impact of the pollution events; and
 - (iii) have any negative impacts been remediated;
- (g) does the State Government provide any subsidies or discounts to Alcoa for water or electricity:
 - (i) if yes to (g), please detail the nature and cost of the subsidies or discounts; and
- (h) given that Alcoa is required to provide support to regional communities according to license conditions:
 - (i) which regional communities or townships has Alcoa provided support to;
 - (ii) what form of support has been provided or offered;
 - (iii) what was the dollar value of the support provided; and
 - (iv) what outcomes have been achieved?

3400. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the unlined Dalyellup Waste Residue Disposal Facility (DWRDF) with millions of tonnes of treated solid residue (TSR) from the production of titanium dioxide pigment, buried in a modified swale between the vegetated linear primary dunes and the parabolic secondary dunes, covering an area of around 91,000m² with a depth around seven metres Australian height datum (AHD) and an approximate maximum elevation of 24 metres AHD which will be exposed to rising sea levels and coastal processes, and I ask:

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- (a) what is the Government doing to make sure the DWRDF will be adequately contained; and
- (b) what is the Government doing to make sure the DWRDF will not pose a health risk for the community?

3401. Hon Diane Evers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the Minister's response on 6 June 2019 to question on notice 2091, that a radiation consultant employed by an environmental consulting firm provided advice to the Radiological Council that there was no scientific basis for a buffer, and I ask:

- (a) did the Radiological Council commission this advice/report by the environmental consulting firm;
- (b) if no to (a), who did; and
- (c) if yes to (a), is it normal procedure for the Radiological Council to rely on radiation consultants employed by environmental consulting firms to give advice in matters of radiation that can affect public health?

3402. Hon Diane Evers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the Minister's response on 27 June 2019 to questions on notice 2164 and 2166 (that the Greenpatch development site is not regulated under the *Radiation Safety Act 1975*, and that outdoor levels of radon and thoron registered at the boundaries of the Dalyellup Waste Residue Disposal Facility (DWRDF) were not higher than expected in comparison to other coastal areas of Western Australia), and I ask:

- (a) will the Minister provide a copy of the radiation readings of the areas surveyed;
- (b) if no to (a), why not;
- (c) where did the Radiological Council obtain the background environmental radiation levels for Dalyellup upon which it based its conclusion that "There was no evidence of radiation levels above background over the areas surveyed. Thus, these areas could be considered for unrestricted use with respect to radiation"; and
- (d) what are the expected background outdoor levels of radon and thoron (Bq/m³) in a coastal area like Bunbury or Dalyellup?

3403. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Is the Department of Communities still pursuing the development of the Greenpatch?
- (2) Given the development's proposed layout that appears in 'Figure A - Site Location' of the supporting documentation of Satterley's application for a clearing permit on behalf of the Department of Communities, is different to that presented in Structure Plan 11453P-SP-04B Lots 9105, 9076, 8019 Dalyellup:
 - (a) has a new layout for the development in the Greenpatch been prepared other than the one presented in Structure Plan 11453P-SP-04B Lots 9105, 9076, 8019 Dalyellup;
 - (b) if no to (a), why is this development's layout depicted in the supporting documents of the clearing permit application;
 - (c) if yes to (a), will the Minister table a copy;
 - (d) if no to (c), why not;

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- (e) if yes to (a), has an an updated Structure Plan been submitted to the Shire of Capel on behalf of the Department; and
- (f) if no to (e), when is it anticipated it will be?

3404. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to Satterley's application on 20 January 2020 on behalf of the Department of Communities to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) for a clearing permit on a portion of the Greenpatch to allow test pits to be dug to examine any contamination in the former Eastern Turning Circle (ETC), and I ask:

- (a) has the site investigation been completed;
- (b) if yes to (a), has a report been provided to DWER;
- (c) if yes to (a), will the Minister table a copy of the report;
- (d) if no to (c), why not; and
- (e) if no to (a), when is it anticipated to be completed?

3405. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning:

- (1) Is the Department of Communities still pursuing the development of the Greenpatch?
- (2) Given the development's proposed layout that appears in 'Figure A - Site Location' of the supporting documentation of Satterley's application for a clearing permit on behalf of the Department of Communities, is different to that presented in Structure Plan 11453P-SP-04B Lots 9105, 9076, 8019 Dalyellup:

- (a) has a new layout for the development in the Greenpatch been prepared other than the one presented in Structure Plan 11453P-SP-04B Lots 9105, 9076, 8019 Dalyellup;
- (b) if no to (a), why is this development's layout depicted in the supporting documents of the clearing permit application;
- (c) if yes to (a), will the Minister table a copy;
- (d) if no to (c), why not;
- (e) if yes to (a), has an an updated Structure Plan been submitted to the Shire of Capel on behalf of the Department; and
- (f) if no to (e), when is it anticipated it will be?

3406. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning:

I refer to question on notice 2091, and I ask:

- (a) will the Minister provide an exact map with coordinates delineating the reserve boundary;
- (b) if no to (a), why not;
- (c) will the Minister table a map or advise coordinates of the current internal buffer zone between the disposal cells and the reserve boundary;
- (d) if no to (c), why not; and
- (e) who is responsible for ensuring the internal buffer is maintained between disposal cells and the reserve boundary?

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3407. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning:

I refer to the *Decision in Respect of Appeal against Classification Contaminated Sites Committee (CSC 05/2018) Contaminated Sites Act 2003, Part 8, Division 2 for the Greenpatch development*, dated 20 October 2020, 'the appeal is upheld to the extent that the site is to be classified under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003 as possibly contaminated – investigation required', and I ask:

- (a) has the Western Australian Planning Commission received any application for subdivision related to the Greenpatch;
- (b) if yes to (a), when was it received and will the Minister table a copy;
- (c) if no to (b), why not;
- (d) if yes to (a), have any approvals been granted with respect to the Greenpatch;
- (e) if yes to (d), when were they granted and will the Minister table a copy; and
- (f) if no to (e), why not?

3408. Hon Diane Evers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to question on notice 3099 on the health impact of prescribed burning smoke, and I ask:

- (a) will the Government commit to tabling the research project report once completed in mid-November 2020, or as soon as practicable; and
- (b) if no to (a), why not?

3409. Hon Diane Evers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health:

Given that smoke from fire in native and introduced vegetation can exacerbate cardiovascular diseases and respiratory diseases such as asthma and emphysema and can cause lung cancer and deaths among community members, fire fighters and those conducting prescribed burns, what steps is the Government taking to:

- (a) minimise the amount of prescribed burning; and
- (b) implement rapid detection and at-source suppression of wildfire ignitions?

3410. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Forestry:

- (1) Will the Minister provide the following statistics, usually provided in Forest Products Commission's (FPC) annual report:
 - (a) trends in the area of native forest harvested (hectares) from 1976-77 to 2019;
 - (b) area of coniferous (pine) plantations as at 31 December 2019 (hectares) pre-1970 to 2019;
 - (c) area of broadleaved (eucalyptus/corymbia) plantations as at 31 December 2019 (hectares);
 - (d) area of sandalwood (spicatum/album) plantations as at 31 December 2019 (hectares);
 - (e) log production from Crown land and private property in 2019-2020:
 - (i) sawlog timber;
 - (ii) native forest sawlogs;
 - (iii) plantation softwood sawlogs and veneer logs;
 - (iv) other log material;

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- (v) native forests;
 - (vi) plantation hardwood; and
 - (vii) plantation softwood other;
 - (f) native forest sawlog production in 2019-2020, by species and grade;
 - (g) native forest other bole volume in 2019-2020, by species and product type; and
 - (h) sandalwood production by the FPC from Crown land (product type)?
- (2) if no to (1)(a) to (h), why not?

3411. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment:

Given that smoke from fire in native and introduced vegetation can exacerbate cardiovascular diseases and respiratory diseases such as asthma and emphysema and can cause lung cancer and deaths among community members, fire fighters and those conducting prescribed burns, what steps is the Government taking to:

- (a) minimise the amount of prescribed burning; and
- (b) implement rapid detection and at-source suppression of wildfire ignitions?

NIGEL PRATT

Clerk of the Legislative Council