



Speech by

Hon. Lindy Nelson-Carr

MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA

Hansard Tuesday, 6 March 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Binary Industries, Narangba

Hon. LH NELSON-CARR (Mundingburra—ALP) (Minister for Environment and Multiculturalism) (10.24 am): I would like to update the House on the work being undertaken by the EPA on state and local government lands that were impacted by the fire at the Binary Industries site in Narangba in August 2005. The EPA is determined to do everything possible to minimise the risk to the local community, the environment, and local waterways.

The removal of the soil is an important part of this project. More than 5,900 tonnes of contaminated soil has been removed from two of the containment ponds by the contractor, Quantum Environmental Services—QES—and taken to the Collex Ti Tree landfill facility for bioremediation prior to disposal. The soil is being transported in sealed and covered trucks, and measures are in place to ensure that the trucks are cleaned of excess soil and are inspected before leaving the site. The EPA is monitoring these works with scientists supervising at all times, and dust and air quality monitoring equipment is installed on site. The level of dust has been consistently below environmental guidelines.

The EPA is currently in the process of validating the excavated containment ponds to ensure the remaining soil in these ponds meets soil remediation criteria. Once validated, the QES will start backfilling ponds with clean fill as part of the rehabilitation works to reinstate the tributary. The next stage will be to start remediation work in the two remaining containment ponds—ponds 1 and 2.

It is important to keep the community informed of our work at the estate. I have asked that a weekly summary be placed on the EPA web site outlining what is happening. I also encourage local residents or businesses who have concerns or questions on the works to call the EPA pollution hotline on 1300130372. Officers are more than happy to assist. I would also like to thank the hardworking officers of the EPA who have been doing a great job on this very large and difficult project.