

Question on Notice

No. 1830

Asked on 12 November 2009

MR DOWLING asked the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (Mr HINCHLIFFE) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the rapidly declining koala numbers and the recent court ruling—

- (1) Will the Minister seek removal of the KRA designation over the super quarry KRA 71 Mount Cotton?
- (2) Does the government support extractive industry in the Koala Coast?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Redlands for his question.

The State Planning Policy (SPP) 2/07: Protection of Extractive Resources (SPP 2/07) was introduced to manage development around key resources of quarry materials of strategic importance to a wider region. The Mount Cotton resource area is currently one of the KRAs identified under the SPP.

As such, the identified site warrants protection from incompatible development and the community deserves planning measures that limit the potential for any future land use conflict.

However, a site identified as a KRA does not exclude it from also being responsive to the existing environment sensitivities around the site. In this instance, applications for an extractive industry in the Koala Coast should be able to demonstrate a high standard of environmental performance can be attained.

Quarry approval processes are primarily the responsibility of Local Government, while some State agencies such as the Department of Environment and Resource Management may have roles as “referral agencies” under the Integrated Development Assessment System of the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*. However, the local government authority remains the decision maker.