



EDUCATION AND HEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE

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MEDIA RELEASE

From: Hon Dr Kim Hames, MLA
Acting Chairman

To: Media

Date: 26 April 2007

INQUIRY INTO THE CAUSE AND EXTENT OF LEAD POLLUTION IN THE ESPERANCE AREA

Next week the Education and Health Standing Committee will be conducting public hearings as part of its Inquiry into the Cause and Extent of Lead Pollution in the Esperance Area. The hearings are open to the public and are being held in Perth on Monday, 30 April 2007 and in Esperance on Wednesday and Thursday, 2 and 3 May 2007. Details are attached.

The Committee invites media representatives to attend the hearings. Please note, however, that because of the size of the Committee Office's hearing room facilities in Perth, media personnel using news cameras and recording equipment are requested to only be in attendance for the first 15 minutes from the commencement of proceedings at 10:15 am. The restriction does not apply to the hearings in Esperance as these will take place in the Auditorium at the Civic Centre.

As indicated in the attachment, representatives of Magellan Metals Pty Ltd and the Esperance Port Authority will be appearing as witnesses at the Esperance hearings. Other potential witnesses will be contacted shortly, based on the submissions received from Esperance-based individuals and agencies before the deadline tonight. These witnesses will be listed on the Committee's website as soon as details and availability have been confirmed.

The public hearings in Perth and Esperance will be conducted in accordance with standard Committee procedures. That is, all witnesses to give evidence will be notified in advance and, other than those representatives listed in the attachment, will be invited to speak to their written submissions.

Other members of the public are invited to observe the hearings but should be aware that these are not public meetings and they will not have the opportunity to express their views at these forums. However, the Committee encourages interested individuals and agencies to consider providing written submissions, including responses to the evidence given at public hearings and supplementary submissions, and is expected to announce an extension of the deadline shortly.

General enquiries should be directed to Hon Dr Kim Hames MLA, acting Chairman, on 0417 912 182. Enquiries about matters related to the procedural elements of the Inquiry can be directed to Dr Jeannine Purdy, Principal Research Officer, on (08) 9222 7469.



Education and Health Standing Committee

PUBLIC HEARINGS MONDAY, 30 APRIL 2007

Location: Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth

10:15 am Department of Health

Dr Peter Flett, Acting Director General

Dr Andy Robertson, Divisional Director, Health Protection Group

Dr Charles Douglas, Public Health Physician

Mr Martin Matisons, Toxicologist

Dr Jim Dodds, Director, Environmental Health

11:30 am Department of Environment and Conservation

Mr Keiran McNamara, Director General

Mr Kim Taylor, Deputy Director General, Environment

Mr Robert Atkins, Director, Environmental Management Division

Mr Peter Skitmore, Manager Industry Regulation Branch

Mr David Mell, Manager Nature Protection Branch

2:45 pm Department for Planning and Infrastructure

Mr Greg Martin, Director General

PUBLIC HEARINGS WEDNESDAY, 2 MAY 2007

Location: Civic Centre, Council Place, Esperance

9:00 am Magellan Metals Pty Ltd

Mr Patrick Scott, Managing Director

Mr Trevor Watters, General Manager, Strategic Development

10:30 am Esperance Port Authority

Mr Colin Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Jim Matijasevich, Chairman

Remainder of sessions to be advised* - between 1:00 pm and approx. 5:00 pm.

PUBLIC HEARINGS THURSDAY, 3 MAY 2007

Location: Civic Centre, Council Place, Esperance

Sessions to be advised* - between 9:00 am and approx. 5:00 pm.

*Committee to invite selected Esperance-based individuals and agencies to give evidence at the public hearings based on submissions received by Thursday, 26 April 2007.