

Question 1

The Hon. GREG PEARCE: Are you aware of concerns about your Government's housing development at Bunberra Street, Bomaderry?

The Hon. ERIC ROOZENDAAL: I will have to take that question on notice.

ANSWER:

I am advised meetings were held with Shoalhaven City Council on 6 and 19 August 2009. In addition, Council was notified of the proposal by letter on 20 October 2009. Adjoining neighbours were also notified and provided with 21 days to lodge a submission. A total of three submissions were received. Following public consultation a footpath was added across the Bunberra Street frontage and additional landscaping was included to screen and soften the fencing along the northern boundary of the property.

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Question 2

The Hon. GREG PEARCE: Is there any specific plan to increase the availability of land for tourism purposes in the Illawarra?

The Hon. ERIC ROOZENDAAL: I will have to take that question on notice.

ANSWER:

I am advised the Illawarra Regional Strategy contains an action for Councils, through their Local Environment Plans, to identify appropriate sites for major tourism developments and specific precincts.

Question 3

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: You are the Minister. What steps is the Government taking to preserve prime agricultural land in the Illawarra, particularly land surrounding the Huntley colliery site?

The Hon. ERIC ROOZENDAAL: I will take that question on notice. I will come back with a precise answer.

ANSWER:

I am advised Prime agricultural land in the Illawarra is preserved through limiting rural residential development, limiting non-compatible uses in core agricultural areas, and limiting subdivisions and dwellings.

Existing agricultural land to the east of the Huntley colliery site is located within the priority West Dapto new release area. Land to the south, west and north of Huntley Colliery forms part of the Illawarra Escarpment which is recognised for environmental protection.

Question 4

CHAIR: We have been discussing the heavy coal trucks from Wollongong and the Illawarra. I know you are working on this rail alternative. Are there any other plans on how to cope with the heavy use of those trucks? I notice the trucks are often tail to nose virtually along the road.

The Hon. ERIC ROOZENDAAL: I am advised that on 7 June 2010 the Government announced a further \$25 million in road upgrades over three years in relation particularly to Picton Road, on top of \$12 million announced a year earlier, and from memory—I need to check—\$3 million from the Labor Federal Government as well two years earlier. I will make sure that is right. Road safety is a top priority for the Government and it is committed to reducing the number of lives lost on roads in New South Wales. We will continue to look at upgrading roads to meet the challenges of both travelling freight and motorists. There have been a number of new measures introduced on to roads in the Illawarra including safety barriers, improved line markings and new warnings.

ANSWER:

I am advised the Federal Government announced \$3.7 million in February 2009. This was increased to \$3.9 million in mid 2010.