



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021 ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE 22 February 2022

Asked by ELIZABETH LEE MLA on 22 February 2022: ANDREW BARR MLA took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Proof Transcript 22 FEBRUARY 2022, PAGE 18]

In relation to:

MS LEE: Okay. Just going back to the relationship with the ACT government and the Canberra region joint organisation, has the ACT government been approached or has it got any role or made a decision at all in relation to Viola's proposed development for the waste to energy incinerator at its existing Woodland bioreactor site in Goulburn?

Mr Barr: I do not believe so, not directly to me, I do not think, but I will check across the entirety of government as to whether there has been any engagement there. It is a fair way away from the ACT, so I would expect if it were just across the border and have a very immediate impact, then it may have that level of engagement, but Goulburn is 90 kilometres away, so I suspect that it is unlikely, but I will check.

MS LEE: Great. Thank you. So I will just confirm that, you will take that on notice?

Mr Barr: That is correct.

ANDREW BARR MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

[Insert answer to question taken on notice]

Veolia has proposed the development of a waste to energy incinerator ("Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre") within its Woodlawn Eco Precinct in Tarago. Following the NSW Government's release, in September 2021, of its *Energy from Waste Infrastructure Plan*, the Goulburn-Mulwaree Council (the Council) passed a resolution stating its opposition to waste to energy or waste incineration facilities within the local government area.

The Council has been in contact both with my directorate, in its regional engagement role, and with ACT NoWaste, in its waste management role. On 29 September 2021, the General Manager of the Council wrote to the Policy and Cabinet Division of my directorate, advising of the Council's resolution and seeking the ACT Government's support for opposing the development.

In November 2021, CMTEDD officers responded to the Council, advising that while Council's position is consistent with relevant policies in the ACT, the ACT would be unlikely to make a submission to a NSW Planning process unless there was a direct impact on the ACT.

The response also invited the Council to keep the ACT informed of developments, and the ACT also continues to engage with the Council on regional waste infrastructure through its participation in the Canberra Region Joint Organisation.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Signature: 

Date: 28.2.22

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA