

12.1 – Elected Member questions of which notice has been given – Controlled Waste Tracking Requirements (SJ4382)

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Elected Member	Councillor Byas
Disclosure of Officers Interest:	No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has an interest to declare in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> .

The following questions were received from Councillor Byas via email on Monday, 2 December 2024.

Question 1

Given the materials used at the Permapole site, are Officers aware of whether Permapole is subject to the DWER's controlled waste tracking system?

Officer Response

Officers are not aware of any specific regulatory controls on Permapole relating to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) Controlled Waste Tracking System. Officers are aware that waste materials containing contaminants such as copper, chromium and arsenic require disposal in a waste transfer station licensed to accept those materials.

Question 2

I note the Regulations detail "packaged controlled waste" which may include, among other things, solid wastes including "contaminated soils". With that context, are Officers aware of the approved, or otherwise, processes used by Permapole for the removal of sedimentary material/soils from their catchment/discharge dams?

Officer Response

Officers have not been made aware of processing activities at Permapole for removal of sedimentary material/soils from the catchment/discharge dams.

Question 3

Since the Council resolution at the November OCM (OCM311/11/24), can Officers please advise what updates, if any, they have received from the DWER on the progress of their investigation of the Permapole site?

Officer Response

The most current advice received by the Shire from DWER is that water sampling by DWER has occurred, from locations both on-site and off-site. DWER is awaiting analysis results of the samples taken. In an update received from DWER on 4 December 2024, they advise they are still considering the other requests made in the Council resolution, which was:

Contact Us

Enquiries

Call: (08) 9526 1111
Fax: (08) 9525 5441
Email: info@sjshire.wa.gov.au

In Person

Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
6 Paterson Street, Mundijong WA 6123
Open Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm (closed public holidays)



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That Council:

1. **REQUESTS** the Chief Executive Officer write to the Department of Water, Environment and Regulation (DWER) inviting DWER Officers to present the findings of their formal investigation of the Permapole site to a future Policy Concept Forum meeting of Council, together with any actions that will be taken by DWER, as the case may be.
2. **REQUESTS** that DWER Officers establish a separate webpage for concerned members of the community to be kept up to date on all matters pertaining to any formal investigation they agree to do, and how members of the community can contact DWER Officers.
3. **REQUESTS** that DWER Officers write to all landowners within 1,000m of the Permapole facility advising of the actions being taken.
4. **REQUESTS** the Chief Executive Officer bring a report to Council detailing the above. The report should include, but not be limited to, all technical reports from the DWER investigation detailing their findings, methodology, planned actions (if any), etc.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7/0