



**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**Steve Thomas MLA**  
Opposition Spokesperson  
for the Environment

**Tony Simpson MLA**  
Member for  
Serpentine-Jarrahdale

**Simon O'Brien MLC**  
Member for South  
Metropolitan Region

7 Dec. 2006

## **Liberal MP's look out for community**

A group of Liberal MP's have promised to hold the Carpenter Government to account amid claims that it has ignored local concerns about a waste management plant in Canning Vale.

Steve Thomas MLA, Tony Simpson MLA and Simon O'Brien MLC have spent the last few months meeting with local residents and raising the problem in the Parliament, seeking answers from the Government about how it is proposing to deal with an unacceptable situation.

Residents living in nearby suburbs, some as far as several kilometres away, have claimed to have been effected by the odour coming from the Regional Resource Recovery Centre run for the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council.

Local MLA Tony Simpson has stated that several residents living near the facility have contacted his office.

"People are concerned about this facility and the effect it is having on their lifestyle and potentially on their health," Mr Simpson said.

"The Labor State Government claims that they are on top of the issue and that it has been fixed.

"However, the current spate of complaints indicates that the problem has not been entirely solved. Odour detection and monitoring is required in nearby areas.

"The RRRRC management has been responsive to our concerns though and has indicated their full support for that monitoring, which is pleasing,"

Mr O'Brien, Member for South Metropolitan Region and himself a resident of Canning described a visit to the plant on Friday 18th August:

"We inspected the plant and discussed the problems including odour emissions. We were advised of the works being carried out to rectify the odour problem and were

---

advised the odour should progressively decrease and be gone by the end of November.

“Unfortunately, we have received many reports since mid-November of further serious odour problems. Some residents are very upset about the problem and rightly so.

“We visited the RRRRC again on 1st December to seek some answers.”

Dr Thomas called on the Government to get more involved in the project, to ensure it met all its’ environmental requirements. This should include additional funding if necessary to get it right.

“The Labor Government has a poor history of monitoring air quality – just look at the Midland Brick fiasco. Whether or not the operations of this facility have had any adverse environmental or health problems, it is the role of the State Government to police the environmental impact of operations such as the RRRRC and ensure people’s quality of life,” said Dr Thomas.

“We are not entirely convinced that they have fulfilled this role in a satisfactory manner.”

**Media enquiries:** Shaun Ratcliff  
E-mail: [shaun.ratcliff@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:shaun.ratcliff@mp.wa.gov.au)  
Mobile: 0405 440 345

---