

**Mr Rob Petterson,**

**Statement:** Mr Petterson - Good Evening Mayor and Councillors. My name is Mr Rob Petterson, I come from Leeming and I will be asking questions in relation to the SMRC. Mr Mayor thanks to Councillor Wibberley a new word has entered into the SMRC debate and that word is duped. Duped means fooled, tricked, deceived, con taking, cheat, hoodwink and swindle. Recently Council will be subjected to an amended motion saying there were very few other complaints and that the findings in the Departments reports should be accepted. We have scientists and chemists doing reports and it staggers me people will try to discredit their findings. Mr Mayor these comments surprise, oh sorry, it makes me wonder if we were being duped by the complainants. These comments surprise me because prior to the last Council meeting I asked Cr Wibberley what he thought SMRC did that he supported them. His response was 'I never said I supported them' yet the only public comment here tends to support the SMRC. I must say Mr Mayor the hardest job in the world must be the PR reps for the SMRC cause they have not yet found something that is defensible. So the questions I have are in regards to the Council.

**Statement:** Mr Petterson - Is the Council aware that Section 49.5 of the *Environmental Protection Act* states a person who emits an unreasonable emission from any premises or causes an unreasonable emission to be emitted from any premises commits an offence. Is the Council aware of the definition of unreasonable emission means emission or transmission of noise, odour, electro-magnetic radiation unreasonably interferes with the health, welfare, convenience, comfort or amenity of any person. Would the Council agree with the words, any person, for the offense to be complete, there is no need to have a specific SMRC approved number of people affected or reporting the odour? Is the Council aware in a letter dated 26<sup>th</sup>, in a newsletter that is distributed to the community, dated 26<sup>th</sup> July 2006, Councillor Thompson appears to admit that the SMRC are committing an offence when he says, "this conclusion supports the advice from the Department that the odour problem is more likely an issue of amenity rather than health". If I can touch on Councillor Wibberley's perception of a small number of people reporting.

**Statement:** Mayor – Can you say what the question is please.

**Statement:** Mr Petterson – The question is , is the Council aware a random telephone survey of residents and businesses within 500m and 1200m of the RRRC was conducted by Patterson Marketing Research that conclude approximately 93% of residents within 600m of the RRRC reported odours and 64% of residents within 1200m of the RRRC reported odours. And that survey was a random survey of 250 people in the area and it is attached to the Department of Environment and Conservation report 2008. Were the Council aware that 74% of the inner circle and 46% living in the outer circle had made a complaint. Were the Council aware in the DEC report October 2008 62% of the people reporting an odour used the Odour Group website.

**Comment from the Gallery:** The Mayor clarified there are no restrictions on who can ask questions of Council.

**Statement:** Mr Petterson – Thank you Mr Mayor. May I continue?

**Statement:** Mayor – Yes please. Thanks

**Statement:** Mr Petterson – Were the Council aware in the DEC report of October 2008, 62% of people reporting the odour used the Odour Group website 27% to the DEC yet only 17% reported the actual odour to the SMRC. Does this show a lack of confidence in the SMRC or a lack of effort on behalf of the SMRC to promote the opportunities for the community to report the odour? In 2006 the SMRC produced a number of community flyers that detailed that the bio filters were causing odour. How many community flyers has the SMRC distributed after 2006? Why have they stopped distributing the public information? Why has the SMRC not called any community meetings since the one in June 4, 2006, which went so well for them? In 2007/2008 John Holden's company, Holden Burns Communication Consultants were on a \$5,000 a month retainer this was in conjunction to PR people that are already employed. Was the SMRC decision to stop informing the community about odour issues through letter box drops as a result of information provided by Holden Burns. How much money after 2006 has the SMRC spent on notifying the community of the different methods on reporting the odours?

Were, sorry, What, were or could the Council officers of Canning produce a summary for the Councillors regarding the City of Canning odour survey, in regards to how many people were affected. Mr Mayor I don't know whether the SMRC emissions are causing any health issues. My concern is that not enough information has been sought and some questions if I can regarding the current investigation of the health issue. Were the Council aware that in 2007 the SMRC published an ad in the local paper claiming the Department of Health had stated the odour did not cause a health problem? I wrote to the Minister of Health about that subject. On the 11<sup>th</sup> of July I received a letter from John Hyde, Parliamentary Secretary, for the Minister of Health who stated this testing has not been comprehensive enough to determine whether or not there are any toxic emissions from the facility. He then went on to say the Department of Health has indicated the committee, after reviewing and monitoring the results although the chemicals detected were at levels under health thresholds, the levels were significantly above odour thresholds which can in itself produce symptoms of headaches and nausea. Mr Mayor did the Health Department conduct any additional air quality testing or did they rely on the air testing prior to the letter I received on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2007? If no further testing was conducted what has changed their minds that was comprehensive enough, sorry was not comprehensive enough, in July 2007 to determine whether or not any toxic emissions were being released, yet in their recent report they claim there is not an issue. Has the Department of Health made any attempt to contact the local community to undertake any blood testing to investigate potential increase levels in toxic material, if not why not? Mr Mayor can Council staff request the DoH, Department of Health to inform the Council what survey, letter, or other contact that they have attempted with the local community to try and examine and identify any possible health issues. As you will be aware, they

called five doctors that practised close to the area and that's all they've done. Mr Mayor, if the SMRC and some Councillors wished to challenge the number of people that are affected by the odour, will the City of Canning in conjunction with the City of Melville conduct a survey of those residents living next to the main four complainants and ask if they are also experiencing the odour and ask why these residents are not reporting. Mr Mayor, finally if I can, can the Council request from the SMRC, we know they have been using \$1.5 million in electricity, can the Council ask them how many kilowatts that equates to please. And finally Mr Mayor I know Cr Wibberley may be staggered as the Members of the Council and the community that have been duped. Thank you.

**Statement:** Mayor – We will have to take that on notice.

**Statement:** Mr Petterson – Thank you Mr Mayor.

**Statement:** Mayor – And in relation to the \$1.5 million, in relation to the electricity, I don't think we can get an answer because the electricity price is struck between Synergy and SMRC which is confidential to both parties. So I would not hope that you would get an answer on that. That's my prediction, okay?

**Statement:** Mr Petterson – It's good to see that they are open and accountable.

**Statement:** Mayor – We can ask them but I am just telling you.

**Statement:** Mr Petterson – Thank you Mr Mayor.