



**Roads, Eyre Highway  
11 November 2003**

**Mrs PENFOLD (Flinders):** My question is to the Minister for Transport. Can the minister advise the house whether the parking bays on the Eyre Highway are to be closed? On 15 May this year— *Mr Koutsantonis interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for West Torrens does not have the Eyre Highway in his electorate, nor is he responsible for the Minister for Transport's portfolio.

**Mrs PENFOLD:** On 15 May this year I asked the minister whether there was any truth in what was then a strong rumour that a number of parking bays on the Eyre Highway are to be closed. At the time (nearly six months ago) the minister responded:

I will obtain a detailed response with respect to the location that the member for Flinders has asked about and I will bring back the detail.

As yet, I have heard nothing, and I am most concerned because these parking bays are used by thousands of travellers and help to reduce the number of accidents from fatigue.

*Mr Williams interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for MacKillop is not the minister.

**The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT (Minister for Transport):** I have made the offer to members opposite previously that if they have specific questions about individual roads of the nature that the member is now asking or about train noise—

**The Hon. I.F. Evans:** We ask you and you do not answer: we write to you and you do not answer. Shall we telegram you?

**The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT:** Do you want to answer it as well as ask it? You are in opposition, in case you had not noticed.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I underline what the minister has just said. Members in opposition will find that some of them will not be there for the duration of the day if they behave in the manner in which they just have. The honourable the minister.

**The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT:** Thank you, sir. Obviously I will follow that up for the member. I am concerned that I have not got back to her, and I apologise. We are now well aware of the tactics of the opposition today. Here they go nit-picking and cherry picking.

**Roads, Eyre Highway  
15 May 2003**

**Mrs PENFOLD (Flinders):** Can the Minister for Transport advise the house whether there is any truth in the rumour that a number of parking bays on the Eyre Highway are to be closed and, if so, has a regional impact study or any consultation been undertaken with the local people? These bays are greatly valued, and are used constantly by many thousands of people driving between Port Augusta and the Western Australian border. They help to reduce the road carnage caused by fatigue when travelling long distances. Only two dedicated workers patrol the road between Ceduna and the Western Australian border, and they take great pride in keeping the parking bays maintained, as well as cleaning up road kill, collecting rubbish, repairing road damage and replacing guard posts. My constituents are most concerned that they remain open and well maintained.

**The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT (Minister for Transport):** I thank the member for her question. I would be surprised if the

answer was yes, because our policy is to increase the number of parking bays. We think this is an important part of our road safety campaign. I do not know whether the specific area that the member for Flinders is talking about is undergoing some reconfiguration or whether there are some changes, but I would be very surprised, from a global point of view, if there were to be fewer of them, because we have a policy to increase the number of parking bays.

I will obtain a detailed response with respect to the location that the member for Flinders has asked about. It may well be that some are being upgraded, and that there are some with respect to which the location is being changed. I am not sure of that sort of detail. But, as I said to the member for Flinders, I can give her an assurance that we have a commitment to increase the number of parking bays throughout South Australia. So, I would be extremely surprised with respect to the tenor of her question. I will bring back the detail for the specific area that the member talked about.

### **ROADS, EYRE HIGHWAY 27 November 2002**

**Mrs PENFOLD (Flinders):** Is the Minister for Transport now able to advise the house whether the widening of Eyre Highway is on schedule? On 2 August this year I wrote to the minister regarding the widening of Eyre Highway west of Ceduna. My constituents use this road frequently and are concerned for safety reasons. I did not receive a response, except for an acknowledgment of receipt, which did not arrive until 16 October. Consequently, on 21 October I asked the minister to update the house on the widening of the highway. He informed the house as follows:

I do not carry around in my back pocket all this information about every individual road in the state. However, I make this offer: if anyone in the house would like some information about any road, whether it be in their electorate or out of their electorate, they only have to let me know and it will be made available expeditiously.

I have asked three times and have not received a reply.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The chair recognises the minister.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The minister is on my right. I have recognised the minister. Most noise—should I call it din—seems to be coming from elsewhere.

**The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT (Minister for Transport):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I do believe that when I made that offer I was talking about a briefing but, nonetheless, the member is—

*Mrs Penfold interjecting:*

**The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT:** I am only telling you what I believe. You may not agree, but that is what I believe I made the offer about. Nonetheless, the member is fully entitled to the detail and an answer to her question. I undertake that she will get that answer within the next 24 hours, if not sooner. I also repeat the offer which I believe I made and to which she refers in her question, that is, if she would like a detailed briefing on this issue, I will also make sure that it is organised for her as a matter of priority. The briefing might well provide her with additional detail, which could be of some value to her and her constituency—but she can make that judgment.

**21 October 2002**

**Mrs PENFOLD (Flinders):** Will the Minister for Transport say whether the widening of the Eyre Highway west of Ceduna is on schedule? My constituents, particularly those in Ceduna, use this road frequently, and they are concerned, for safety reasons, that it be completed as soon as possible—preferably before the solar eclipse on 4 December, when a large number of travellers who are not aware of the danger of this section of highway will be using it.

**The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT (Minister for Transport):** I thank the member for her question. I have said previously, when asked questions about a variety of roads, that there are a lot of roads out there. I would be delighted to obtain the detail of the answer for the member. However, I highlight that I do not carry around in my back pocket all this information about every individual road in the state. However, I make this offer: if ever anyone in the house would like some information about any road, whether it be in their electorate or out of their electorate, they only have to let me know and it will be made available expeditiously.