30th November 2005

BURNS TIRES TO SNEAK IN HIS ANNUAL REPORT ON LAST SITTING DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

The Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Environment today tried to dodge a question about his overdue Annual Report for the department.

Other agencies have had their reports tabled for over a month including most of the very minor agencies.

The lateness of the Department’s Annual report is suspicious because it is the department that has the most interest in it because of the $60 million blow out in the department. It is also the department with carriage of the Waterfront according to Opposition Leader Jodeen Carney.

“This minister is trying to sneak the report in on the last sitting day before Christmas because there is bad news in it and he wants as little attention to be paid to it as possible.

“He’s moved money left right and centre in an effort to mask the money he’s taken out of capital works but he cannot hide the fact that his promise to spend $123 million on capital works was slashed by $9.8 million.

“This is nearly the same amount that he’s spent on legal bills for the East Arm Port.

“In any case he is trying to hide the fact that he’s blow his budget enormously.

“I want to read this report and find out what else he’s been hiding.”