

Stink over YouTube

By **ADAM BROCKMAN**

A SERIES of videos posted on internet site YouTube have highlighted the treatment of residents affected by odour from the Regional Resource Recovery Centre, according to a resolution by Canning Council last week.

The four videos titled "SMRC no odours tour", which have since been removed, showed Southern Metropolitan Regional Council members, staff and Odour Unit representatives on a tour of residential and business locations near the RRRC where odours have been reported.

Residents were outraged to discover the videos that included names and houses of "frequent complainers" and identified other businesses as potential odour sources.

Recorded on two occasions in October, the second videos were posted on November 8, a week after the DEC released a report that concluded the RRRC was the most significant contributor to odours in the area.

An SMRC spokesman said they were removed earlier this month after concerns from the DEC.

Canning Council voted to include the video as part of a wide-ranging submission to the Legislative Council's Inquiry into

Municipal Waste Management in Western Australia.

Cr Bev Olsen proposed the City include a copy of the YouTube films in its submission to show an example of how the SMRC had treated the people affected by the odour.

"This was posted on YouTube for the world to see - it belittles the issue and identifies residents and businesses," she said.

SMRC chairman Doug Thompson said he believed the videos demonstrated councillors cared enough to visit locations where odours were reported.

"I have responded to email complaints in the past to find no odour. On conveying this

to a complainant, I have been accused of lying. In our record visits I make to locations where odours are reported," he said.

"DEC may have contacted SMRC but as it was my personal YouTube website it really had nothing to do with the SMRC - I removed it after giving sufficient time for viewing by people who came on the tour."

Leeming resident Many Clarke said residents were insulted by the "factually flawed" statements in each video which were used to justify the SMRC's position.