

Publication: Melville Times;Date: Dec 9, 2008;Section: News;Page: 5



Stink over facility continues

By **ADAM BROCKMAN**

THE furore over waste management in the southern suburbs continued this week with South Metropolitan Regional Council members closing ranks to consider responses to problems with the Regional Resource Recovery Centre.

The City of Canning has refused to outline any future action on the facility until after a closed forum with the SMRC on December 18.

"Any decision ultimately taken by council on the future of waste management will only be made after a thorough investigation of all our options has been undertaken," Mayor Joe Delle Donne said.

It follows motions of support for the RRRC in Canning Vale by the City of Fre-

mantle and City of Melville, which both requested that Premier Colin Barnett establish an independent community consultative committee to work with the DEC and the SMRC to help resolve individual concerns about the operation of the facility.

The cities also requested the Waste Management Authority fund research into issues relating to the introduction of alternative waste technologies, and that the SMRC provide a report on the actions the Regional Council intends to take in relation to the development of the Odour Action Plan.

Melville chief executive Shayne Silcox said ratepayers could expect very significant cost increases if the RRRC was forced to close.

"The participating councils would be required to contribute towards the esti-

mated \$9 million per annum in debt repayment and holding costs for the next 15 years," he said.

"The City of Melville's proportion of these costs would be in the order of \$3,150,000 per annum - this would simply be like pouring money down the drain," he said.

The City of Cockburn said it had not taken a position in regards to the RRRC, as it had not yet seen the details of the SMRC's odour abatement proposal.

The Town of Kwinana and Rockingham City Council have endorsed the SMRC Strategic Waste Management Plan that will investigate building a regional resource recovery centre in Rockingham or Kwinana.



Go Wild Winners Elizabeth Da Silva and Norma Groves.