

Industrial park a step closer

THE Government has briefed key stakeholders about the proposed Shotts Industrial Park in a bid to push through legislated changes before the end of this year, Collier-Preston MLA Mick Murray revealed yesterday.

Representatives of Landcorp and Environment Minister Donna Faragher met Mr Murray and Shadow Environment Minister Dr Sally Talbot on Monday to help the passage of the amendment to the legislation before the WA Parliament adjourns for their summer break at the end of this month.

"I have been advocating for the release of new industrial land near Collie since I was first elected in 2001," Mr Murray said. "It has been a long, slow process but the opening will provide well-deserved business and employment opportunities in the region.

"Any projects that consider using the Park will have to comply with the Environmental Protection Act 1986 before land will be released and they are granted a license to operate on this site.

"The gazetting has been a lengthy process, involving many

government bodies from the Environmental Protection Authority to the Department of Planning," he said.

Dr Talbot said she would be pressing the Government to allow the legislation amendment in the next couple of weeks. "Mick Murray and I will be pressing the Government hard on the need to get things moving. There are a few remaining questions about the remediation of areas contaminated by landfill but we should be one step closer to getting the land released before Christmas."