



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS
AND
ANSWERS**

No. 10

TUESDAY 19 JUNE 2007

(The Questions and Answers Paper published for the first sitting day in each week will contain, by number and title, all unanswered questions, together with questions to which answers have been received on the previous sitting and any new questions. On subsequent days, new questions are printed, as are questions to which answers were received the previous day. Consequently the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered.)

Notice given on date shown

Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 2 (Including Question Nos 0001 to 0027)	13 June 2007
Q & A No. 3 (Including Question Nos 0028 to 0037)	14 June 2007
Q & A No. 4 (Including Question Nos 0038 to 0041)	03 July 2007
Q & A No. 5 (Including Question Nos 0042 to 0058)	04 July 2007
Q & A No. 6 (Including Question Nos 0059 to 0080)	05 July 2007
Q & A No. 7 (Including Question Nos 0081 to 0087)	10 July 2007
Q & A No. 8 (Including Question Nos 0088 to 0089)	11 July 2007
Q & A No. 9 (Including Question Nos 0090 to 0105)	12 July 2007
Q & A No. 10 (Including Question Nos 0106 to 0107)	24 July 2007

9 MAY 2007

(Paper No. 2)

*0001 HOUSING—SALE OF PUBLIC HOUSING IN MOUNT DRUITT—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—

- (1) Are the following properties NSW Land and Housing Corporation-owned, or ex- NSW Land and Housing Corporation-owned, properties:
 - (a) 4 Exeter Place Bidwill?
 - (b) 10 Saturn Place Doonside?
 - (c) 5 Macartney Crescent Hebersham?
 - (d) 5 Mackellar Rd Hebersham?
 - (e) 431 Luxford Rd, Lethbridge Park?
 - (f) 13 Manilla Road, Lethbridge Park?
 - (g) 13 Leopold Street Rooty Hill?
 - (h) 8 Colbeck Street Tregear?
 - (i) 108 Wilkes Crescent Tregear?
 - (j) 36 Semana Street Whalan?
 - (k) 5 Magga Drive Tregear?
 - (l) 13 Kurama Crescent Whalan?
 - (m) 44 Waikanda Crescent, Whalan?
 - (n) 10 Feramin Avenue Whalan?
- (2) How many NSW Land and Housing Corporation residential properties have been sold since 1 July 2006 in the following postcodes:
 - (a) 2770?
 - (b) 2766?
 - (c) 2760?
 - (d) 2767?
- (3) Is it Department of Housing (DoH) policy that all department properties earmarked for sale by a real estate agent be auctioned?
- (4) If that is the policy, why is 13 Leopold Street advertised for sale at \$200,000 on the Richardson and Wrench Rooty Hill website?
- (5) Which real estate agents have been chosen to auction or sell Land and Housing Corporation properties for the following postcodes:
 - (a) 2770?
 - (b) 2766?
 - (c) 2760?
 - (d) 2767?
- (6) Was a tender to handle DoH sales/ auctions put out prior to selection?
- (7) How were the successful tenderer/s selected?

Answer—

(1) Properties are targeted for sale when they become uneconomical to maintain and are not consistent with the Department's portfolio strategy, which seeks to align stock with existing and projected needs. All proceeds from property sales are directly reinvested in the construction or acquisition of new public housing stock.

- (1) (a) Previously owned.
- (1) (b) Previously owned.
- (1) (c) Previously owned.
- (1) (d) Previously owned.

- (1) (e) Previously owned.
- (1) (f) Previously owned.
- (1) (g) Previously owned.
- (1) (h) Previously owned.
- (1) (i) Previously owned.
- (1) (j) Previously owned.
- (1) (k) No.
- (1) (l) Previously owned.
- (1) (m) Previously owned.
- (1) (n) Previously owned.
- (2) (a) 49.
- (2) (b) 0.
- (2) (c) 3.
- (2) (d) 10.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) The property was originally listed for auction on 12 March 2007 but was withdrawn due to a fire on the premises. The property was re-listed for auction on 16 April 2007 but failed to sell. The property was then listed for sale at the Market Valuation by way of private treaty through the local agent. A sale has now been negotiated.
- (5) (a) to (d) Richardson & Wrench.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) The tender submissions were assessed against Essential Criteria comprising of the following:
- a real estate group must be suitably qualified with an unrestricted licence issued by the Office of Fair Trading to operate in New South Wales,
 - a tender must be submitted by the head office of an established real estate agent group which currently operates an extensive network of local real estate branch/franchise offices in most major suburbs within the Sydney metropolitan area,
 - tender to be signed by person holding appropriate delegation to act on behalf of the tenderer,
 - all personnel nominated to provide the required services to the Department of Housing must hold academic and professional qualification currently recognised by Real Estate Institute of New South Wales, and
 - key personnel in any local branch office nominated by the appointed real estate group head office must have a minimum of 5 years real estate experience with a demonstrated successful track record of marketing and disposal of residential property by public auction.
- Those submissions satisfying the Essential Criteria were then assessed against Competitive Selection Criteria comprising:
- company experience and profile,
 - nominated key personnel and professional skills,
 - demonstrated best practice property agency services and management practices, including quality control systems,
 - fee rates,
 - personnel and resources available,
 - technical expertise,
 - track record (auction sales), and
 - an understanding of the required property and marketink services.

Richardson & Wrench Pty Ltd was successful in its tender and was appointed on 27 September 2005 by the Director-General of the Department of Housing.

*0002 HOUSING—PUBLIC HOUSING AT BROKEN HILL—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—

- (1) How many units of public housing are expected to be transferred to the management of a community housing organisation in Broken Hill?
- (2) How will the community housing organisation be selected?
- (3) After the transfer, how many units of housing is it expected will be managed by the community housing organisation in Broken Hill?
- (4) Will 39 houses in south Broken Hill will be sold?
- (5) What will the total numbers of dwellings owned by the Land and Housing Corporation in Broken Hill be:
 - (a) prior to the sale?
 - (b) after the sale?
- (6)
 - (a) Will the Department of Housing be adding an additional 39 units of public housing elsewhere to replace the 39 sold dwellings?
 - (b) If so, where will these be located?

Answer—

- (1) This is yet to be determined.
- (2) This is yet to be determined.
- (3) Final numbers are yet to be determined.
- (4) No. It is anticipated 32 dwellings will be sold.
- (5) (a) 137 at this point in time.
- (5) (b) This is yet to be determined.
- (6) (a) and (b) Funding will be used to acquire properties in high demand areas.

*0003 HOUSING—STOCK MANAGEMENT—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—

- (1) Does the Minister intend to restore:
 - (a) Department of Housing (DoH) managed housing stock to the same levels in the areas where existing stock has been handed to Community Housing Providers to supplement their operating stock levels?
 - (b) DoH managed statewide stock levels to the levels prior to commencement of the Stock Transfer program?
 - (c) If so, when?

Answer—

- (1) (a) Housing stock under management of the Department of Housing includes stock managed as public rental housing, community housing and also stock managed on behalf of the Aboriginal Housing Office. The transfer of stock to Community Housing providers has no impact on the overall supply of social housing as Community Housing Providers house public-housing eligible clients.
- (1) (b) Refer to (a). Department of Housing state wide stock levels for the social housing system are not impacted upon by stock transfers.
- (1) (c) Not applicable.

*0004 ENERGY—SNOWY SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Have nominations for representatives on the Snowy Scientific Committee required under the Snowy Hydro Corporatisation Act 1997 (which came into effect in June 2002) been sent out?
- (2) If so, how many nominations were received?
- (3) Has the membership of the Committee been finalised?

- (4) If so, who is the Chairperson and who are the members of the Committee?
- (5) Has the Committee held a meeting?
- (6) If not, why not?
- (7) If it has not met, when will it meet?
- (8) Did the Premier of Victoria write to the Premier of New South Wales on 27 March 2007 requesting that the Snowy Scientific Committee be established as quickly as possible?
- (9) Has the Premier or other Minister responded to this letter?
- (10) If so, did the letter give an undertaking that the Government would expedite the establishment of the Snowy Scientific Committee and provide an indication as to when the Committee would meet?
- (11) If not, why not?
- (12) Is failure to establish the Snowy Scientific Committee a contravention of section 57 of the Snowy Hydro Corporations Act 1997 and contrary to undertakings given in 2006?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Four.
- (3) to (7) No, Victoria has yet to provide its nominations.
- (4) to (11) These questions are better directed to the Premier. (12) Nominations are currently being secured, as the Government undertook to do.

*0005 LANDS—COMPOSITION OF THE KILLALEA STATE PARK TRUST—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) What vacancies have occurred among members of the Killalea State Park Trust since 2000?
- (2) When did each of those vacancies occur?
- (3) What appointments have been made to fill each of those vacancies?
- (4) When were those vacancies filled?
- (5) Have any vacancies been left unfilled?
 - (a) If so, why were they left unfilled?
- (6) Have representatives of the local community been appointed to the Trust?
 - (a) If so, when were those appointments made?
- (7) Is the local community still represented on the Trust?
 - (a) If not, when did the vacancy/vacancies occur?
- (8) Have representatives of the local indigenous community been appointed to the Trust?
 - (a) If so, when were those appointments made?
- (9) Is the local indigenous community still represented on the Trust?
 - (a) If not, when did the vacancy/vacancies occur?
- (10) Does the Chairperson or other member of the Trust advise the Minister for Lands (or his representative) of vacancies among members of the Trust?
- (11) Does the Chairperson or other member of the Trust make recommendations to the Minister for Lands as to whether such vacancies should be filled?
- (12) Has the Chairperson or other member of the Trust advised the Minister for Lands of any vacancies for members representing the local community and/or the local indigenous community?
- (13) Has the Chairperson or other member of the Trust made a recommendation to the Minister as to whether those vacancies should be filled?
 - (a) If so, what was the recommendation/s?
- (14) What reasons were given to support the recommendation/s?
- (15) Did the Minister act in conformity with the recommendation/s?

Answer—

(1) Members of the trust board for the Killalea State Park Trust were appointed for five year terms from 28 April 2000 to 27 April 2005 and then from 28 April 2005 to 27 April 2010. For each of those terms, seven community trust board members were appointed to the Killalea State Park Trust Board in addition to a number of ex-officio members. During the first-mentioned term, two community trust board vacancies occurred. In the latter term, one community trust board vacancy occurred.

(2) During the 2000 to 2005 term, two vacancies occurred – one on 13 September 2001 and the other on 2 September 2003. In the 2005 to 2010 term, a vacancy occurred on 20 June 2006.

(3) to (5) A community trust board may consist of between three and seven members. Although during the 2000 to 2005 term, the community trust board member component dropped from seven to six, then to five trust board members, there were still four ex-officio trust members on the board. As the trust board members totalled ten and nine members respectively during this term of office following the vacancies, no action was taken to appoint additional members to the board.

During the 2005 to 2010 term following a vacancy in 2006, the trust board consisted of six community trust board members and two ex-officio trust board members, giving a total of eight trust board members.

Action was taken by the Department of Lands in December 2006 to advertise the vacancy on the trust board, however no applications were received.

The current vacancy on the board was recently readvertised in local newspapers on the 6 and 7 June 2007.

(6) Seven positions on the board are available for representation by the local community.

The appointments for the board's current term of office were made in the Government Gazette on 22 April 2005 when seven members from the local community were appointed.

(7) Yes.

(8) The local Aboriginal community is currently represented on the Killalea State Park Trust Board by the appointment of Councillor Barry Bird who is also the ex-officio representative of Shellharbour City Council. Councillor Bird has been a trust board member since 19 November 1999.

(9) Yes.

(10) Yes.

(11) Yes, if the trust believed it had insufficient members to effectively manage the affairs of the trust board.

(12) Yes.

(13) No.

(14) Not applicable.

(15) In view of the state significance of the Killalea State Park, I requested the local office of the Department of Lands to invite applications for appointment from the local community with a view to filling the vacant position on the board. Unfortunately, no applications were received as a result of advertising on that occasion. The vacancy has been readvertised in local newspapers on the 6 and 7 June 2007.

*0006 LANDS—CAMPSITES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AT KILLALEA STATE PARK—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

(1) How many campsites are currently available at Killalea State Park?

(2) What is the cost per adult per night of camping in the state park?

(3) Will the camping be retained if the area is developed?

(4) Will new accommodation, for example cabins, be more expensive than the current campsites?

(5) Can the Minister guarantee that the current campsites will be preserved in quantity, and be no more expensive than the campsites are now?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

(1) 50.

(2) \$10 (including GST).

(3) Yes.

(4) Yes.

(5) and (5) (a) Yes, they will be preserved in quantity provided there is a continuing demand for this type of accommodation at the Park. Camping fees are driven by market forces and by the costs involved in maintaining such sites and providing associated facilities. However, every effort will be made to maintain camping fees as low as possible.

*0007 LANDS—ECOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE DESIGN FEATURES FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

(1) What ecologically sensitive features would any development in a state park be required to have?

(2) Are they required to have:

(a) Solar water heaters?

(b) Solar panels?

(c) Composting toilets?

(d) Rainwater tanks?

(e) Energy-efficient appliances?

(3) If not, why not?

Answer—

(1) Killalea Coastal Investments will be endeavouring to include technologies and design features to ensure the development has a minimal footprint on the environment. These features are inherent in the philosophy of the development being an eco-tourist resort and will be analysed as part of the Development Application process.

(2) Details of the design features, including those related to the points raised, are yet to be finalised.

*0008 LANDS—AGREEMENT TO LEASE KILLALEA STATE PARK—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

(1) Will the Minister for Lands guarantee that any revenue coming from a private lease agreement within Killalea State Park will go toward the upkeep of Killalea State Park considering he has been quoted as saying that 'it is time that Killalea State Park earned its keep'?

(a) If not, why not?

(2) If the proposed development goes ahead, will the Department of Lands be putting the money it gains from a lease towards upkeep of Killalea State Park?

(a) If not, will the department be diverting it elsewhere?

Answer—

(1) Revenue received will be placed in the Department of Lands' Public Reserves Management Fund. Funds will then be made available to allow the Killalea State Park Trust to undertake an approved capital works programme, as well as provide for the ongoing management/maintenance of the park.

(2) Yes.

*0009 LANDS—PRIVATE PARTNERS TO MARINER FINANCIAL LTD—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

(1) Does the agreement with Mariner Financial Limited in relation to Killalea State Park involve any other private companies?

(2) If so, which one(s)?

Answer—

(1) and (2) The Development Agreement that has been entered into is with Killalea Coastal Investments Pty Ltd. This is a development company nominated by a consortium involving EcoPoint, Babcock and Brown and Mariner Property Partnerships to carry out the proposed development at Killalea State Park in

accordance with the Development Agreement. When the development is built, the resort will be managed by EcoPoint.

*0010 PLANNING—NEWCASTLE COAL INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP COAL LOADER—Ms Rhiannon asked the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

- (1) The project approval for the Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group Coal Loader gives the Director General absolute discretion to reach alternative agreements with the Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group rather than those conditions set out in the approval with "or as otherwise agreed to by the Director General" being common wording throughout the document. What checks and balances are in place to prevent the proponent constantly requesting changes to the approval where they feel they cannot meet the outcomes required?
- (2) What mechanisms are in place to allow the public and other stakeholders to assess and/or make comment on these alternative plans and/or agreements the proponent and the Director General may enter into?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that the Director General's ability to consider changes within a consent is a common approach to accommodate minor procedural variations arising during implementation. The Director General can not agree to change any matter which is otherwise inconsistent with the original consent.
- (2) Where a matter is considered inconsistent with the consent, the Applicant would need to seek a modification in accordance with Section 75W of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

*0011 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—SOURCE OF WATER USED AT COWAL GOLD MINE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

- (1) How much water is Barrick Gold Australia using from the Cowal Gold Mine project dewatering bores?
- (2)
 - (a) How many down stream users in the Lachlan River have had their water allocations suspended in 2006 and thus far in 2007?
 - (b) How much water is being saved from these suspensions?
- (3) Are farmers near Lake Cowal allowed to have their stock and domestic allocation from the Jemalong irrigation channel while it is running for the Cowal Gold mine?
- (4) How much water was used by the mineral industry in New South Wales in 2006 and the previous five years?
- (5) Of the water used by the mineral industry of New South Wales in 2006, how much was used by gold mines?
- (6) How much water used by gold mines was taken from:
 - (a) groundwater sources?
 - (b) surface water sources?
- (7) How much recycled water did gold mines in New South Wales use in 2006 and the previous five years?
- (8)
 - (a) Was this water recycled onsite or brought to mine sites from other sources?
 - (b) If brought to mine sites from other sources where did it come from?
- (9) How much water has been used at the Lake Cowal mine since it began construction?
- (10) How much of this water was recycled?
- (11) If recycled water was used at the Lake Cowal mine site, was it recycled onsite?
- (12)
 - (a) Was any recycled water from offsite sources used at the Lake Cowal mine site?

(b) If so, where was it sourced?

Answer—

(1) Barrick has extracted a total of 514.3 megalitres since commencing the de-watering of the mine pit in late January 2005.

(2) (a) and (b) There has been no suspension of water accounts of Lachlan Valley irrigators. General security licence holders in the valley have had a zero allocation for 2006-07.

(3) Yes.

(4) to (8) These are matters for my colleague, the Hon Ian Macdonald MLC, in his capacity as Minister for Mineral Resources.

(9) Barrick has used some 4,847 megalitres of regulated Bland Creek Palaeochannel water since July 2005. In addition Barrick has used 1,960 megalitres of water it traded from existing users in the Lachlan River Regulated Water Source for use in the first half of 2007.

(10) All possible water within the Project is recycled except for water retained within the tailings solids.

(11) Yes.

(12) No.

*0012 MINERAL RESOURCES—SOURCE OF WATER USED AT COWAL GOLD MINE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

(1) How much water is Barrick Gold Australia using from the Cowal Gold Mine project dewatering bores?

(2)

(a) How many down stream users in the Lachlan River have had their water allocations suspended in 2006 and thus far in 2007?

(b) How much water is being saved from these suspensions?

(3) Are farmers near Lake Cowal allowed to have their stock and domestic allocation from the Jemalong irrigation channel while it is running for the Cowal Gold mine?

(4) How much water was used by the mineral industry in New South Wales in 2006 and the previous five years?

(5) Of the water used by the mineral industry of New South Wales in 2006, how much was used by gold mines?

(6) How much water used by gold mines was taken from:

(a) groundwater sources?

(b) surface water sources?

(7) How much recycled water did gold mines in New South Wales use in 2006 and the previous five years?

(8)

(a) Was this water recycled onsite or brought to mine sites from other sources?

(b) If brought to mine sites from other sources where did it come from?

(9) How much water has been used at the Lake Cowal mine since it began construction?

(10) How much of this water was recycled?

(11) If recycled water was used at the Lake Cowal mine site, was it recycled onsite?

(12)

(a) Was any recycled water from offsite sources used at the Lake Cowal mine site?

(b) If so, where was it sourced?

Answer—

(1) This is a matter for my colleague the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water.

- (2) See answer to Question 1.
- (3) See answer to Question 1.
- (4) Information on water use by the minerals industry in New South Wales is not collated on an annual basis by the NSW Department of Primary Industries. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) provided information on water use by the mining and minerals industry in New South Wales for the year 2004-05. The ABS state that total water use by the industry during the period was approximately 1.1% of the total of 5,922 GL consumed in New South Wales.
- (5) Information on annual water use by goldmines is not collated by the NSW Department of Primary Industries. This information is contained in sustainability reports published by individual mine operators.
- (6) See answer Question 5.
- (7) Information on annual use of recycled water by gold mines is not collated by the NSW Department of Primary Industries. This information is contained in sustainability reports published by individual mine operators.
- (8) See answer to Question 7.
- (9) See answer to Questions 1, 4, 5 and 7.
- (10) See answer to Questions 1, 4, 5 and 7.
- (11) See answer to Questions 1, 4, 5 and 7.
- (12) See answer to Questions 1, 4, 5 and 7.

*0013 PLANNING—TAILINGS PONDS AT LAKE COWAL GOLD MINE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

- (1) What is the capacity of the tailings ponds at the Lake Cowal Gold Mine?
- (2) What is the chemical composition of the liquid in the tailings ponds?
- (3) How much of the water component of the tailings is derived from Bland Paleochannel, Lachlan River and other sources?
- (4) Who is monitoring the tailings ponds for leaks or spills?
- (5) What are the current level(s) of the Bland Paleochannel?
- (6) What water sources are local farmers relying on for domestic, stock and agricultural uses?

Answer—

I am advised that:

- (1) Specifications of the Cowal tailings ponds are fully described in the project EIS prepared by North Limited, 1998, which is publicly available.
- (2) The monitoring of tailings including chemical analysis is reported in the Annual Environmental Monitoring Report, also publicly available.
- (3) Variable, according to rainfall, however stormwater run-off and a saline pit are priorities for water usage at the mine works.
- (4) The mine operator as required by the conditions of consent.
- (5) 164mRL as most recently recorded by the mine operator.
- (6) The Department of Planning has no role in recording this information.

*0014 PLANNING—TRANSPORT OF SODIUM CYANIDE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How much sodium cyanide has the Minister or the Department of Planning approved for transport annually in New South Wales?
- (2) In what quantity and with what frequency does this sodium cyanide pass by:
 - (a) rail from Brisbane to Sydney?
 - (b) road from Chullora to Parramatta?

- (c) rail from Parramatta through the Blue Mountains?
- (3)
- (a) Has any planning and/or training for an emergency response in case of any cyanide spill been undertaken?
- (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) I am advised that the Department of Planning has no role in the approval of Dangerous goods transportation. Transportation requirements for all dangerous goods including sodium cyanide on the National road and rail network are governed by the Australian Dangerous Goods Code. In NSW the transport related requirements of the Code are implemented by Department of Environment and Climate Change.
- (2) Refer to 1. above.
- (3) Yes.

*0015 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—WATER ALLOCATION FOR WAMBO COAL MINE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

- (1) Has Wambo Coal mine applied to increase its water allocation?
- (2) What is the size of the increased water allocation that Wambo Coal mine is seeking?
- (3) Is the water allocation that Wambo Coal mine is seeking nearly double the current water allocation?
- (4) In light of the current reduced water allocations, where will this extra water come from?
- (5) Which existing water users will have their allocations reduced in order to assist coal mining operations in the Upper Hunter?
- (6) Are any guarantees that the extra water allocated to the Wambo mine will be used in operational activities, and not simply sold off into the water market to earn additional profits for Wambo Mine?
- (a) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Yes. Wambo Coal Mine has submitted two new licence applications to access additional groundwater entitlements of 98 Megalitres/year and 260 Megalitres/year respectively.
- (3) No.
- (4) The groundwater reserves to which Wambo is seeking access have not suffered any allocation reductions.
- (5) None.
- (6) The groundwater licences, if approved, would specify a specific use purpose and are non transferable under the current provisions of the Water Act 1912.
- (6) (a) Not applicable.

*0016 MINERAL RESOURCES—WATER ALLOCATION FOR WAMBO COAL MINE—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Has Wambo Coal mine applied to increase its water allocation?
- (2) What is the size of the increased water allocation that Wambo Coal mine is seeking?
- (3) Is the water allocation that Wambo Coal mine is seeking nearly double the current water allocation?
- (4) In light of the current reduced water allocations, where will this extra water come from?
- (5) Which existing water users will have their allocations reduced in order to assist coal mining operations in the Upper Hunter?
- (6) Are any guarantees that the extra water allocated to the Wambo mine will be used in operational activities, and not simply sold off into the water market to earn additional profits for Wambo Mine?

(a) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) Questions regarding water allocations for coal mines in New South Wales should be directed to my colleague, the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water.
- (2) See answer to Question (1).
- (3) See answer to Question (1).
- (4) See answer to Question (1).
- (5) See answer to Question (1).
- (6) See answer to Question (1).
- (6) (a) See answer to Question (1).

*0017 PLANNING—BUS PRIORITY SYSTEM OPERATING ON T-WAYS—Ms Rhiannon asked the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

- (1) Is the bus priority system along the North-West T-way still operating?
 - (a) If not, when was it dropped?
 - (b) If not, why was it dropped?
- (2) Has the bus priority system been turned off at several intersections on the Liverpool to Parramatta T-way?
- (3) If so, what are the intersections where the bus priority system no longer works on the Liverpool to Parramatta T-way?
- (4) What is the status of the Public Transport Information and Priority System (PTIPS)?
 - (a) When will it be introduced?
 - (b) What T-ways will it operate on?
- (5) Does the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) have a conflict of interest where T-ways cross other roads, which prevent it giving full priority to buses?
- (6) Will the bus priority system favoured by the RTA continue to operate until PTIPS is implemented?
- (7) Why do T-way buses slow to almost a stop at intersections with even minor roads?
- (8) If the consent conditions have been varied, why did the Minister for Planning agree to vary the consent conditions?

Answer—

On 29 April 2007 a modification to the North West Transit-Way project was approved. Details of the consent can be found on the Department of Planning website.

*0018 TRANSPORT—BUS PRIORITY SYSTEM OPERATING ON T-WAYS—Ms Rhiannon asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

- (1) Is the bus priority system along the North-West T-way still operating?
 - (a) If not, when was it dropped?
 - (b) If not, why was it dropped?
- (2) Has the bus priority system been turned off at several intersections on the Liverpool to Parramatta T-way?
- (3) If so, what are the intersections where the bus priority system no longer works on the Liverpool to Parramatta T-way?
- (4) What is the status of the Public Transport Information and Priority System (PTIPS)?
 - (a) When will it be introduced?
 - (b) What T-ways will it operate on?

- (5) Does the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) have a conflict of interest where T-ways cross other roads, which prevent it giving full priority to buses?
- (6) Will the bus priority system favoured by the RTA continue to operate until PTIPS is implemented?
- (7) Why do T-way buses slow to almost a stop at intersections with even minor roads?
- (8) If the consent conditions have been varied, why did the Minister for Planning agree to vary the consent conditions?

Answer—

Bus priority measures including grade separated intersections, exclusive bus only lanes and bus priority jump-starts/B-signals at intersections have remained operational since the opening of the North West transitway. In addition to these major bus priority measures, the Department of Planning has approved that the additional introduction of the Roads and Traffic Authority's Public Transport Information and Priority System (PTIPS) on the North West transitway be co-ordinated with the introduction of the system across the broader Sydney metropolitan area rather than in isolation, commencing in 2008.

The operation of the traffic lights at the intersection of Pitt Street and Argyle Street Parramatta were modified with the opening of the Parramatta Transport Interchange to balance the needs of all buses using this intersection. Buses on the Liverpool to Parramatta transitway make up less than a third of all buses using the intersection of Argyle and Pitt Streets, Parramatta.

Prior to the opening of the Parramatta Transport interchange, the traffic lights at the intersection of Pitt and Argyle Streets, Parramatta provided priority to buses using the Liverpool to Parramatta transitway. This intersection is heavily utilised by buses accessing the Parramatta Transport Interchange and forms part of the North West transitway.

Safety is a priority on the North West T-way and bus drivers must approach intersections at a speed which is safe according to the conditions.

The Department of Planning agreed with the RTA's application because it provides a solution for all buses within the Sydney metropolitan area, not only those using the North West transitway.

*0019 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—CARBON EMISSIONS FROM THE RICE INDUSTRY—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

- (1) Does the rice industry in southern New South Wales significantly contribute to carbon emissions through the burning of stubble remaining after harvest?
- (2) Is the spray chemical, MCPA, aerially sprayed on rice crops?
- (3) If so, what will the Government do to protect residents living in areas of rice production from potentially dangerous emissions?

Answer—

The burning of agricultural residues does not make a significant contribution to New South Wales's overall emissions. According to the latest New South Wales state inventory released by the Australian Greenhouse Office, the burning of agricultural residues, of which the rice industry is only a fraction, contributed 120,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas. This represents around half of one per cent of total emissions from the agricultural sector.

There are currently 15 pesticide products containing MCPA herbicides registered for use on rice crops in Australia. The approved directions for these products allow application by aircraft onto rice. However, the drought conditions significantly reduced rice plantings in southern New South Wales last year, which in turn has reduced both the need for aerial spraying and the level of stubble burning this year.

All pesticide products sold in Australia (including herbicides such as MCPA) must be approved and registered by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority. Before registering a product, the Authority is required to conduct an assessment of the potential impacts on the environment, human health and trade, and of the likely effectiveness of the pesticide for its proposed uses. The registration process also includes approval of label directions for each product that stipulate how the pesticide may be used, to ensure that it is used only to control the targeted pest and to maximise protection of the surrounding environment.

Once sold, the use of pesticide products is regulated by the NSW Government under the Pesticides Act 1999, which aims to protect human health, the environment, property and trade. The Department of Environment and Climate Change enforces the Act.

It is an offence under the Act to disregard label instructions or to use a pesticide in a way that causes injury or likely injury to another person, damage or likely damage to another person's property, or harm to a non-target plant or animal. The Act also specifies requirements for aerial application of pesticides, including licensing of both pilots and aerial operator companies. The Pesticides Regulation 1999 imposes further requirements on pesticide users in relation to record-keeping, training and notification. The maximum fine for a breach of the Pesticides Act is \$120,000 for an individual or \$250,000 for a corporation.

*0020 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—FORESTS NSW SEEING REPORT—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Is any of the expenditure shown on page 26 of the 2004-05 Forests NSW Seeing Report, showing \$9.1 million on research and \$4.5 million on education, not recorded as a cost in the Statement of Financial Performance in the Annual Report for 2004-05 at page 9, as at page 63 of the 2004-05 Annual Report it is indicated that some of Forests NSW research was carried out by Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Science and Research?
 - (a) Given that the 2005-06 Seeing Report at page 22 indicates that expenditure on research for 2005-06 (\$6.2 million) and that on education (\$4.2 million) fell compared to earlier years due to shared management and administrative costs with DPI, how much was this expenditure for work carried out on behalf of Forests NSW by DPI?
 - (b) Was the expenditure for the work done by DPI on behalf of Forests NSW, shown as a cost in the Income Statement at page 10 of the 2005-06 Annual Report?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (1) (a) Nil.
- (1) (b) Not applicable.

*0021 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE OF FORESTS NSW—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

With regard to the expenditure of the Southern Regional Office of Forests NSW:

- (1)
 - (a) Does recurrent expenditure include depreciation?
 - (b) If not, what is the total depreciation figure for 2005-06 for the Eden and South Coast Southern sub-regions, including depreciation of buildings, (including guest house and cabins), plant and equipment, roads and bridges, and workshops at Eden, Bateman's Bay and Narooma and any other locations within the Eden and South Coast-Southern sub regions? (Exclude depreciation of Bombala workshop and Tumbarumba forest centre. If these latter two items cannot be excluded on the basis that depreciation costs are only available at the regional level, please provide a separate estimate for each of these two items.)
- (2) If depreciation is only available at the aggregate level - as shown in the Annual Report for 2005-06 - please provide an estimate of depreciation for the Eden and South Coast-Southern sub regions including depreciation of buildings, (including guest house and cabins), plant and equipment, roads and bridges, and workshops at Eden, Bateman's Bay and Narooma and any other locations within the Eden and South Coast-Southern sub regions?
- (3)
 - (a) Does recurrent expenditure for 2005-06 for the Southern Regional Office exclude any cost items that are not recurrent expenditure, for example consultants' fees?
 - (b) If so, what are they and what was their value?
- (4)

- (a) Are there any items of expenditure that were incurred by the South Coast Regional Office but paid by Head Office?
- (b) If so, what were they and what is the value of each one?
- (c) Does this occur each year?
- (5)
- (a) Have there been any changes in the way depreciation is calculated, comparing 2004-05 with 2005-06?
- (b) If so, what effect has it had on the total dollar value of depreciation comparing 2004-05 with 2005-06?
- (6)
- (a) How much is spent by Head Office and by the Divisions implementing the Native Forest Management System (NFMS) and any other planning systems that apply to Native Forests, per annum? (Please use an estimate from 2004-05, rather than 2005-06 financial year in calculations as a large proportion of FNSW staff are no longer on Forest NSW's books.)
- (b) What are the employee and related costs, an estimate for Head Office depreciation, including fees, materials and other?
- (7) What is the estimate of the cost of developing the NFMS system, including its technology and related costs? (Please amortise these costs over the expected life of the system to provide a per annum estimate and show the amortised development cost separately from the per annum implementation costs and indicate the time horizon used as the basis for amortisation.)
- (8) How much of each amount from question (7) including the implementation cost and amortised development cost is applicable to the Southern Regional Office?
- (9) How much was spent on research on Native Forests in 2005-06? (Please include employee and related costs, fees, materials, other and provide an estimate of depreciation costs at head office, the divisions and the regions as applicable, showing components separately.) (Examples of previous years projects include wildlife studies, studies on regrowth forests, the pulp yield study undertaken in order to provide a better service to South East Fibre Exports. The results of the study went into a wood quality database for future crop management decisions.)
- (10)
- (a) Does the recurrent expenditure shown for the cost of the Native Forests Operations Branch (\$11.689 million), shown for workshops (\$1.383 million), and shown for Research (\$396,029) exclude the cost(s) of any officer, who as a result of the operation of the Public Sector Employment Legislation Amendment Act 2006 or any other Act, was actually paid by the Department of Primary Industries or another entity, even though the officer was working on activities for Forests NSW?
- (b) If so, what is the amount of these costs using the standard cost categories shown in the Revenue Statement in Forests NSW Annual Report? (Please show the costs separately for Native Forests Operations Branch, workshops and Research activities by cost category.)

Answer—

- (1) (a) Yes.
- (1) (b) Not applicable.
- (2) Estimated depreciation for Eden and South Coast in 2004-05: \$1,191,553. Estimated depreciation for Eden and South Coast in 2005-06: \$1,172,400.
- (3) (a) No.
- (3) (b) Not applicable.
- (4) (a) No.
- (4) (b) Not applicable.
- (4) (c) Not applicable.
- (5) (a) No.
- (5) (b) Not applicable.

(6) (a) and (b) The cost of implementation of the NFMS and other planning for native forests, including employee and related costs and costs attributable to depreciation, fees, materials, etc are not separately accounted. Neither is it possible to provide a reasonable estimate of the amount sought, as the ongoing implementation of the NFMS and other planning activities are integrated into the normal duties of many staff of the Native Forests Division of Forests NSW.

(7) It is not possible to provide a reasonable estimate of the amount sought. The ongoing development of the NFMS involved the formalisation, documentation and presentation to the community of Forests NSW current best practice native forest management so that it could be better monitored and reported upon. It did not require purchase of any new computer technology and does not have a defined time horizon for amortisation purposes.

(8) Not applicable.

(9) Research projects and activities are generally regarded as a corporate business cost and are not costed against particular operational Divisions of Forests NSW.

(10) (a) Forests NSW met the costs of all staff working on activities for Forests NSW.

(10) (b) Not applicable.

*0022 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—PROHIBITION OF SPEAR FISHING—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

For all marine reserves, intertidal protection zones and other areas where spear fishing is prohibited in New South Wales:

- (1) what is the location of the area?
- (2) what are the details of the signage that is in place to inform the public about prohibited activities?
- (3) what is the frequency of patrols by Fisheries Officers?
- (4) what is the number of reports of illegal activities that have been made by members of the public each year for each area since its establishment?
- (5) what are the number of prosecutions, penalty notices, warning letters, information packages that have been issued to breaches noted or reports made by (a) Fisheries Officers and (b) members of the public?

Answer—

(1) Spear fishing is prohibited in many New South Wales waters, including all sanctuary zones and some specific areas (mainly habitat management zones) in marine parks. Where spear fishing is allowed in marine parks, there are restrictions on the species that may be taken.

Spear fishing is also prohibited throughout several New South Wales aquatic reserves and in parts of other aquatic reserves. There are no spear fishing prohibitions associated with the New South Wales system of Intertidal Protected Areas. A full list of areas in marine parks and aquatic reserves where spear fishing is prohibited is attached.

In addition, the Department of Primary Industries, which administers and manages most technical aspects of spear fishing as an activity in New South Wales waters, has in place many closures made under the Fisheries Management Act 1994 for the purposes of public safety and amenity. Spear fishing closures are in place in many New South Wales estuaries and in identified critical habitat for the Grey Nurse Shark.

Generally, spear fishing is not permitted adjacent to an ocean beach at a distance greater than 20 metres from a headland. Details of spear fishing restrictions are published in the Department of Primary Industries publication NSW Saltwater Recreational Fishing Guide and on that Department's web site. Further detail about locations of fishing closures and other restrictions is more appropriately obtained from the Minister for Primary Industries.

(2) Spear fishing prohibitions in marine parks are clearly marked by site-specific ('No spear fishing') signs, as well as through published zoning maps and visitor guides, information on the Marine Parks Authority web site, and various education and extension sessions (including those associated with spear fishing competitions).

Similarly, prohibitions within aquatic reserves are conveyed through site-specific signs, brochures and other publications, information on the Department of Primary Industries web site, and as part of education and extension sessions.

Responsibility for the administration and management of New South Wales aquatic reserves has recently been transferred to the Department of Environment and Climate Change. An audit of signage in aquatic reserves will be undertaken as part of the transfer of management arrangements. This will allow an appropriate signage strategy to be developed in cooperation with communities, recreational groups and local councils.

(3) Marine Parks Authority officers undertake regular compliance patrols within New South Wales marine parks, sometimes in conjunction with other regulatory authorities such as NSW Maritime, the NSW Water Police or Fisheries officers of the Department of Primary Industries. Patrols are conducted in sanctuary zones, or other marine park zones where there are fishing restrictions, three times each week on average.

Within aquatic reserves, Fisheries officers are continuing regular compliance patrols pending arrangements to be made as part of the transfer of responsibility to the Department of Environment and Climate Change. In addition, some local council and volunteer officers have delegated authority to undertake compliance activities in aquatic reserves, particularly in areas of high activity and use.

(4) & (5) The Marine Parks Authority has investigated a significant number of reports of illegal spear fishing, and issued warnings, notices and information packages, or initiated prosecutions, where appropriate.

While the Authority consistently follows up reports of illegal fishing activity provided by members of the public, such reports sometimes contain insufficient detail to identify alleged offenders or take further enforcement action.

Information on enforcement of spear fishing restrictions by Fisheries officers would be more appropriately obtained from the Minister for Primary Industries.

Reserve	Areas where fishing is prohibited
Cape Byron Marine Park	* all sanctuary zones * habitat protection zones at Brunswick River, Belongil Beach, Main Beach, Clarkes Beach, Lennox Head Boulder Foreshore and Mackerel Boulder (seasonally prohibited)
Solitary Islands	* all sanctuary zones * all estuaries
Lord Howe Island Marine Park	* all waters
Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park	* all sanctuary zones * from anchored vessels within the Broughton Island and Saw Tooth habitat protection zones
Jervis Bay Marine Park	* all sanctuary zones * from all lakes, rivers, creeks and lagoons, as well as the Hyams Beach habitat protection zone
Batemans Marine Park	* all sanctuary zones * the Murramarang special purpose zone and the Montague Island (inner) habitat protection zone
Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve	* entire reserve
North (Sydney) Harbour Aquatic Reserve	* entire reserve
Towra Aquatic Reserve	* entire reserve
Shiprock Aquatic Reserve	* entire reserve
Bushrangers Bay Aquatic Reserve	* entire reserve
Cook Island Aquatic Reserve	* within sanctuary zone
Bronte-Coogee Aquatic Reserve	* Gordons Bay and Clovelly Bay

*0023 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—STOP WORK ORDER TO REMOVE GOATS—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

- (1) Did the DECC recently issue a Stop Work Order to remove goats from the southern section of Lot 2, DP 1013290 at Corindi on cultural heritage grounds?
- (2) Did the Stop Work Order require that goats were removed from the property within seven days of the Stop Work Order being issued?
- (3)
 - (a) Were the goats removed within seven days of the Stop Work Order being issued?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (4)
 - (a) Has Mr Andrew Fraser MP been seen visiting the block in question?
 - (b) If so, what meetings and communications have occurred between Mr Fraser and staff of DECC in relation to this block and the Stop Work Order?
- (5) Will the Minister provide all documents and file notes of any such meetings and communications?
- (6)
 - (a) Did Mr Fraser apply pressure to DECC staff to discourage them from enforcing the Stop Work Order?
 - (b) Was this pressure instrumental in preventing them from enforcing that Order?
 - (c) If so, does the Minister consider this an appropriate manner for the DECC to discharge their legal responsibilities under the Threatened Species Act 1995?
- (7) How many Stop Work Orders have been placed by the DECC over this block since the start of 2004?
- (8) Does the Minister acknowledge that these short-term Stop Work Orders have been ineffective in preventing clearing and degradation of this block?
- (9)
 - (a) Has an Interim Protection Order been issued for the block?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (10) Why doesn't the department have a policy that Stop Work Orders are not working if at least three have been issued on a single block and clearing activities are still occurring?
- (11) Why doesn't this automatically trigger a different and stronger legal action in the form of an Interim Protection Order?
- (12) Is the Minister aware that the owner is currently (7 May 2007) undertaking or preparing to undertake more goat fencing on the block, presumably to move the goats to another part of the block?
- (13) Can the Minister provide a commitment that he will not allow the goats to be moved to any other part of the block, so that they do not repeat the destruction that is now occurring in the southern section?
- (14) Is the vegetation where the goats are currently located (in the southern section of the block) covered almost entirely by two endangered ecological communities Swamp Sclerophyll Forest and Subtropical Coastal Floodplain forest?
- (15) Given that the goats are destroying vegetation within those two Endangered Ecological Communities, why didn't the Stop Work Order also require the goats removal on the grounds of damage to those communities?
- (16) Why have the department and the Minister ignored the fact that Coffs Harbour City Council have mapped the southern section of the block, where the goats are now located, as containing large areas of those two endangered ecological communities?
- (17)
 - (a) Will the Minister and the department now act to urgently protect those Endangered Communities by requiring the goats to be removed from the block?
 - (b) If not, doesn't this indicate that there is no real commitment to protection of threatened species and ecological communities, and that the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 has become little more than a toothless tiger?
 - (c) Are the goats on the block unwell?

- (d) Have a significant number died and the RSPCA visited the block to treat or euthanase a number of goats?
- (18) Has fodder now had to be brought on to the block to feed the goats?
- (19)
- (a) Has the placement of close to 1,000 goats on 32 hectares of land, led to severe over-grazing and the decline and death of a significant number of goats?
- (b) Is this 'sustainable grazing'?
- (20)
- (a) The Native Vegetation Act 2003 broadly defines sustainable grazing as grazing that 'is not likely to result in the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation'. Given that the goats in question have completely removed all understorey vegetation from the area, severely affecting both structure and composition, does the Minister acknowledge that the grazing is not sustainable?
- (b) If not, how does the Minister and the department determine and assess what constitutes sustainable grazing?
- (c) What guidelines and criteria, if any, does it use or abide by?
- (d) Will copies of any such guidelines/criteria be made available?
- (21) Are goats also being used in other areas, such as Fame Cove and Wallis Island, to degrade native vegetation in order to facilitate future development?
- (22) Has the ongoing failure of the department to properly deal with this issue undermining the intent and operation of the Native Vegetation Act 2003 and the much-vaunted native vegetation reforms of the Government?
- (23)
- (a) Will the Minister act to enforce the sustainable grazing provisions of the Native Vegetation Act 2003 to ensure that this practice can no longer occur, and to prevent any further exploitation of this clause by developers?
- (b) If not, why not?
- (24) Recent documents obtained by the North Coast Environment Council under Freedom of Information laws show that the owner of the block has applied to Coffs Harbour City Council on at least 2 occasions to re-zone the block to residential, and has plans to put in a 60 lot subdivision and a caravan park.
- (a) Was the department or the Minister aware of the intentions of the owner in relation to development on this block?
- (b) Are the repeated attempts at clearing through various mechanisms that have taken place over the last three years on this block for the purposes of degrading vegetation to facilitate development?
- (c) If so, are these actions condoned by the Minister?
- (d) If not, will the department and the Minister act immediately to place an Interim Protection Order over the block?
- (e) Will the department prosecute the owners of the block for knowingly damaging endangered ecological communities and cultural heritage values on the block through the intensive grazing of goats?
- (f) If not, why not?

Answer—

On 13 April 2007, a Stop Work Order was issued for the removal, within seven days, of goats from the southern section of Lot 2, DP 1013290 at Corindi. It was clear that the goats were causing damage to registered Aboriginal sites.

Staff from the Department of Environment and Climate Change arranged to meet Mr Fraser on site at his request, and agreed to investigate whether areas of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance could be fenced off to protect them from the goats. The Stop Work Order was issued under section 91 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974), which provides for negotiation.

In early May 2007, the Department directed the landowner to cease fencing works, and on 22 May 2007, issued a new Stop Work Order covering both the northern and southern areas of the block. As a result, the

majority of the goats have now been removed, and the Aboriginal sites and Endangered Ecological Communities on the site are no longer under threat.

The RSPCA visited the site after the Department, and concerned members of the local community, notified it and the Rural Lands Protection Board about the poor health of the goats.

The Department advises me that an Interim Protection Order was not issued for the block because a Stop Work Order was considered to be the more appropriate response in this instance. I am further advised that each of the five Stop Work Orders over this land since the beginning of 2004 have addressed different activities that were adversely impacting on the natural and cultural values of the land at different times.

I am satisfied that the Department of Environment and Climate Change has dealt properly with this issue.

*0024 ROADS—E-TAGS FOR MOTORCYCLISTS—Mr Gay asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What provisions have been and/or are been put into place for motorcyclists given moves to make the Harbour Tunnel cashless?
- (2) Are E-tags able to be properly mounted on bike and waterproof?
- (3) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

Motorcyclists have several tolling options on the Harbour crossings.

Motorcyclists have the option of purchasing a quarterly pass for use at manual toll booths on the Sydney Harbour Bridge. This is a fixed quarterly cost and represents a substantially lower rate than daily tolls for regular motorcycle commuters.

The RTA has been involved in trialling a waterproof pouch for mounting E-tags on motorcycles. It is anticipated these will be privately marketed by the end of 2007.

Motorcyclists also have the option of using an e-pass in the same way as any other motorist who does not have an E-Tag. While motorists paying their tolls with an e-pass also pay a "video matching fee", this fee will be waived as a special arrangement in the case of motorcyclists using the Sydney Harbour Tunnel until the waterproof pouches become available.

*0025 ROADS—PATRONAGE LEVEL IN LANE COVE TUNNEL—Mr Gay asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What was the patronage level in the Lane Cove Tunnel during the toll-free period?
- (2) What has the patronage level in the Lane Cove Tunnel, on a daily weekday period and also on the weekend, been since the toll-free period ended?
- (3) How does the current patronage level compare with the Roads and Traffic Authority lane Cove Tunnel usage projections?

Answer—

The tunnel operator Connector Motorways advised that about 70–75,000 vehicles per day used the Lane Cove Tunnel during the toll-free period.

Patronage levels are a matter for Connector Motorways. One of the recommendations in the third report of the Joint Select Committee on the Cross City Tunnel (dated August 2006) was for Connector Motorways to place monthly reports on the number of vehicles using the tunnel on its website, commencing one month after tunnel opening. Connector Motorways has agreed to provide this information in a monthly report on its website commencing in early June 2007, approximately one month after the introduction of the toll.

RTA's prediction of the traffic volumes in the Lane Cove Tunnel are set out in the Environmental Impact Statement for the project. These predictions assume that ramp up has occurred.

*0026 ROADS—IMPLEMENTATION OF FLASHING LIGHTS AT SCHOOLS—Mr Gay asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) How many schools in New South Wales have flashing lights?
- (2) At what schools are these flashing lights installed?
- (3) Of those schools, over the past year how many have broken down, needed repairs or are not working?
- (4) To date, what has been the total cost of the implementation of flashing lights?

Answer—

I am advised:

163 school zone sites have flashing lights, covering 186 New South Wales schools. This includes new flashing lights warning systems that have been installed at 100 schools to increase motorists' awareness of 40km/h school zones.

These innovative systems include high visibility school zone signs with a flashing "40" built into the device, flashing signs which hang off mast arms over the road, and high-visibility lights built into the road pavement similar to an airport runway.

This new technology incorporates back-to-base reporting mechanisms to ensure their ongoing reliability.

An evaluation group led by the RTA and including the NRMA will evaluate the effectiveness of the lights in decreasing the speed of traffic at the locations as well as their reliability. Equipment reliability will be considered as part of this process.

Further information relating to flashing lights in schools is available on the RTA website, at www.rta.nsw.gov.au.

*0027 ROADS—SPEEDING INFRINGEMENTS IN CITY TUNNELS—Mr Gay asked the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) How many speeding infringements have been issued this year in the:
 - (a) Eastern Distributor?
 - (b) Sydney Harbour Bridge Tunnel?
 - (c) Cross City Tunnel?
 - (d) Lane Cove Tunnel?
 - (e) M5 Tunnel?

Answer—

This is matter for the State Debt Recovery Office and therefore falls under the responsibility of the Treasurer the Hon Michael Costa MLC.

10 MAY 2007

(Paper No. 3)

*0028 LANDS—ADVERTISED VACANCIES FOR KILLALEA PARK TRUST—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) When and how often were vacancies advertised for the Killalea Park Trust?
- (2) In what publication(s) were the advertisements placed?

Answer—

(1) and (2) At present one vacancy exists on the Killalea State Park Trust Board. The vacancy was first advertised in the Kiama Independent and Shellharbour Lake Times newspapers on 13 December 2006. No applications were received. The vacancy was again advertised on 6 and 7 June 2007 in the aforementioned newspapers plus the Wollongong Advertiser and the Illawarra Mercury newspapers.

*0029 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—EMISSIONS FROM BLUE CIRCLE SOUTHERN CEMENT—Ms Hale asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

- (1) Has the Department of Environment and Conservation received correspondence from the Residents Against Dioxins Group, raising concerns about the testing and/or reporting of emission levels from the Blue Circle Southern Cement (BCSC) facility at New Berrima?
- (2) Has the department undertaken an independent audit of the emissions report(s) referred to in that correspondence?
- (3) If not, why has the department declined to undertake an independent audit?
- (4) What steps has the department taken to verify the accuracy of the emissions reports provided by the company?
- (5)
 - (a) Does the department employ officers with the necessary expertise to undertake such independent audits of emissions reports from industry?
 - (b) If so, how many such qualified staff are employed by the department and where are they located?
- (6) How many independent audits of emissions reports from industry has the department carried out since 2002?
- (7) Has the department conducted its own testing of the emissions levels from the BCSC facility at New Berrima?
- (8) Do emissions levels from that facility exceed acceptable standards for any substance?
- (9) Is the department satisfied that the emissions from the BCSC facility do not post a threat to the health and welfare of residents living near the facility?

Answer—

The Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) has received correspondence from the Residents Against Dioxins Group in relation to emissions levels from Blue Circle Southern Cement at New Berrima. DECC has commissioned an independent consultant to undertake an audit of the emissions report referred to in that correspondence.

DECC has in-house expertise to audit emissions reports from industry. DECC's Air Policy Branch has twenty four technical staff with specialised air assessment skills. There are also regional staff across NSW who routinely review technical reports. DECC also engages independent experts to assist in technical reviews.

DECC licenses 3200 premises across the state. These premises regularly submit emissions reports, which are reviewed internally and externally.

There have been instances of non-compliance with licence conditions over the life of the plant. DECC assesses all instances of non-compliance and takes appropriate regulatory action.

Licence conditions are set considering nationally and internationally recognised standards and guidelines for air pollutants, to safeguard public health and the environment. There is a protocol in place between Blue Circle Southern Cement and NSW Health where emissions data are reported monthly.

*0030 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL OF LEARD STATE FOREST—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Does the Maules Creek mining lease over the western portion of Leard State Forest have an existing development approval?
- (2) If so, when was that approval granted?
- (3) Will the Minister provide a copy of any such approval?
- (4) How many proposed coal mines in New South Wales have existing development approvals that are five years old or greater?

Answer—

- (1) Questions regarding development approvals for mining projects in New South Wales should be directed to my colleague, the Minister for Planning.
- (2) See answer to Question (1).
- (3) See answer to Question (1).
- (4) See answer to Question (1).

*0031 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—NATURAL RESOURCE TARGETS—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

- (1) Does failure to properly regulate logging on private land in New South Wales undermine the Government's native vegetation reforms?
- (2) Can natural resource targets in the State Plan be met if logging continues unregulated?
- (3)
 - (a) Does the Government expect that it will meet its commitment to the delivery of a Code of Practice by 1 July 2007?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (4) Given that the Government promised that if the stakeholders did not agree to a Code of Practice for logging by December 2006, then it would refer the matter to the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) for the development of a Code, why has it not yet referred the matter to the NRC?
 - (a) Does it now intend to refer it to the Commission?
 - (b) If so, when?
- (5) Will the Minister ensure that he fully and properly considers all three aspects of his portfolio Climate Change, Water and Environment when this Code of Practice is developed?
- (6) Will streamside vegetation, which as the interface between land and water is vital to both water quality and biodiversity protection, be fully and comprehensively protected from logging in New South Wales?
- (7) Is there a large body of scientific evidence on the outstanding importance and recognised scientific value of streamside vegetation?
- (8) Has the department conducted a thorough scientific literature review on which to base the development of streamside protection buffers?
- (9) Does the Minister recognise the outstanding conservation significance of streamside buffers as the last remaining corridors in many heavily cleared landscapes?
- (10) Are streamside buffers extremely important in enabling native fauna to move to adapt to climate change?
- (11)
 - (a) Will the Minister guarantee that any Code of Practice that is introduced will properly protect all streamside vegetation, with minimum 10 metre, 20 metre, 30 metre and 50 metre strict buffers that exclude logging on first, second, third and higher order streams respectively?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- (12)
 - (a) Was rainforest logging banned by Neville Wran on public land more than 25 years ago?
 - (b) Is it still allowed to occur on private land?
 - (c) If so, why?
- (13) Should rainforest logging be considered an archaic practice and should not be allowed in a modern, developed country such as Australia?
- (14) Can the Minister guarantee that any Code of Practice that will be introduced will stop all logging of non-plantation rainforest species on private land in New South Wales?
- (15) Will the definition of rainforest be changed and adopted by the Government on public lands through the Comprehensive Regional Assessment process for any Code of Practice that is introduced?
 - (a) If so, why?

- (b) If so, how?
- (16) Do recent studies in forests along the eastern seaboard show that up to 54 per cent of the total carbon store is stored in the largest trees?
- (17)
- (a) Does the Minister acknowledge and recognise that large trees are carbon banks that must be protected to prevent further emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere?
- (b) If not, why not?
- (18)
- (a) Will all large trees greater than 1 metre diameter at base be protected by any Code of Practice that will be introduced, to ensure that the carbon they store remains firmly sequestered and is not released into the atmosphere by logging and subsequent decay?
- (b) If not, why not?
- (19) Has the department conducted a detailed analysis or assessment of how any Code of Practice will meet the targets for native vegetation set down in the State Plan?
- (a) Is a copy of the assessment publicly available?
- (b) Can the Minister give a guarantee that the Code of Practice will not allow activities that will prevent those targets from being met?

Answer—

The Government recognises the importance of effective regulation to achieve sustainable environmental outcomes. The Native Vegetation Act 2003 provides for forestry activities on private land, while ensuring that appropriate environmental safeguards are in place.

The current exemption on obtaining development consent for private native forestry does not grant any exemption from other legislation and planning instruments.

The Government is committed to strengthening environmental safeguards for private native forestry by introducing Codes of Practice.

The Natural Resources Advisory Council developed a package of measures to progress the regulation of private native forestry, noting that there were some areas where agreement could not be reached. On the advice on the Advisory Council, it was determined that these outstanding issues would be resolved by the Government. Further stakeholder negotiations have subsequently been undertaken by the Government.

I will consider all relevant aspects of my portfolio as part of the development of Codes of Practice, as well as all necessary legislative and policy requirements. The Government has considered advice from the Natural Resources Advisory Council and stakeholder groups in developing all aspects of the Codes of Practice, including definitions.

The Government is committed to ending broadscale clearing, unless it improves or maintains environmental outcomes. It is this commitment that is the basis for the native vegetation targets in the State Plan. The Native Vegetation Act only permits clearing proposals that can be demonstrated to 'improve or maintain' environmental outcomes according to set criteria. Once implemented, the Codes of Practice for private native forestry will set minimum operating standards to satisfy the 'improve or maintain' test as outlined in the Native Vegetation Act.

The Department of Environment and Climate Change will monitor the implementation of the Codes of Practice and investigate all alleged breaches. Where illegal activities are identified, appropriate action will be taken.

*0032 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—THEFT OF ENVIRONMENTAL WATER—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

Given that there is significant evidence of the theft of environmental water in the Macquarie Marshes over a year ago (November to December 2005), how will the Government guarantee that the theft of environmental water will be properly dealt with, both in the context of the Federal takeover of water or if existing state arrangements continue?

Answer—

The Department of Water and Energy is aware of allegations of illegal diversions in the Macquarie Marshes and investigations are continuing. An experts group has been formed to work on this issue with representatives from the Department of Water and Energy, the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Department of Primary Industries, State Water, and the Australian Government's Department of Environment and Water Resources.

The experts group are conducting a review and the outcomes will be used by the respective Departments to undertake action to ensure the environment within the Macquarie Marshes is protected and to ensure the ongoing viability of this unique ecosystem.

*0033 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—WATER ALLOCATION FROM MANGROVE MOUNTAIN—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

- (1) Was a report published last year by the National Centre for Groundwater management that found the Mangrove Mountain aquifer, which supplies water to the Central Coast, is grossly over-allocated?
- (2) Why did Coca-Cola recently receive an increased water allocation from the Mangrove Mountain aquifer from 25 million litres to 66 million litres for an annual fee of \$181?

Answer—

- (1) A report on the Mangrove Mountain aquifer was published by the National Centre for Groundwater Management. The findings of this report are currently being assessed by the Department of Water and Energy.
- (2) The increased allocation was a result of a ruling by the NSW Land and Environment Court. The annual licence fee is based on rates determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal. It does not include charges for water usage.

*0034 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—HARVEST PLANNING FLOW CHART FOR SOUTHERN TUMUT—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) In relation to the Ecological Sustainable Forest Management document for Southern Tumut at page 58, which shows a Harvest Planning Flow Chart (Figure 4), which in turn shows the following decision box: "Is it economically and silviculturally viable to harvest at this time?' - No - Yes" what are the economic and silvicultural considerations that are taken into account when making the decision to harvest or not in native forests?
- (2) How are these considerations applied in the decision making process?

Answer—

- (1) The economic considerations that are taken into account are whether or not the revenue to be generated from the harvesting operation will exceed the cost of the harvesting operation, in those compartments, at the time of harvest planning. The silvicultural considerations that are taken into account are whether or not the harvesting operation will achieve the silvicultural objectives, in terms of growth or regeneration, in those compartments, at the time of harvest planning.
- (2) The considerations are applied in the decision-making process such that, at the time of harvest planning, if the harvesting operation is considered profitable and the silvicultural objectives are considered achievable, in those compartments, then the harvest planning process proceeds to the next step, as documented in the Harvest Planning Flow Chart. If, at the time of harvest planning, the harvesting operation is not considered profitable or the silvicultural objectives are not considered achievable, in those compartments, then the harvest planning process does not proceed to the next step, as documented in the Harvest Planning Flow Chart.

*0035 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—FISHING GEAR REQUIREMENTS IN NSW WATERS—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Has any action been take to review the bag and size limits of fishing gear in New South Wales waters?

- (a) If not, why not?
- (2) Have the results of this review been publicly released?
 - (a) If not, why not?
 - (b) If so, where?
- (3) When can the public expect the proposed changes to come into effect?

Answer—

- (1) Yes. A major bag and size limit review has been conducted.
- (1) (a) Not applicable.
- (2) No.
- (2) (a) NSW Department of Primary Industries is currently finalising the detail of those recommendations.
- (2) (b) Not applicable.
- (3) It is anticipated that they will come into effect in the very near future.

*0036 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF RECREATIONAL FISHING—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Will the Minister advise what progress has been made on an appropriate assessment of recreational fishing?
- (2) When will public consultation take place on a management strategy for recreational fishing?

Answer—

- (1) NSW Department of Primary Industries is undertaking a streamlined assessment of recreational fishing that will ensure improved ecological sustainability outcomes across all New South Wales fisheries.
- (2) Public comment will be sought during the development/preparation of the management strategy for recreational fishing which is expected later in the year.

*0037 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—POPULATION OF GREY NURSE SHARKS—Mr Cohen asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Has a long-lining fleet around Coffs Harbour been targeting sharks since the beginning of the 2006-07 summer, as a result of the depletion of yellow fin tuna?
- (2) Are these fishers setting long-lines adjacent to marine park borders, especially to the north of Solitary Islands Marine Park, including an area known to contain Grey Nurse Sharks (Bullocky's reef)?
- (3) Can an assurance be made that Grey Nurse and Great White Sharks are not being killed or injured by fishermen in this area?
- (4)
 - (a) Will the shark boats in the area be investigated?
 - (b) If not, why not?

Answer—

- (1) An increase in pelagic shark fishing has been reported in the Coffs Harbour area.
- (2) Setlines are being used to capture marketable pelagic sharks in a range of permitted areas around Coffs Harbour, as well as other ports.
- (3) Commercial fishers have to comply with a large range of existing gear and area controls (including critical habitat area rules) and a new combined daily trip limit for a range of shark species. I have also approved a comprehensive observer program for the commercial line fishery.
- (4)

- (a) NSW DPI Fisheries Officers have checked boats catching shark as part of their normal offshore patrols.
- (b) Not applicable.

29 MAY 2007

(Paper No. 4)

- 0038 LANDS—REVENUE RAISING ACTIVITIES—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—
- 0039 LANDS—PORT MACQUARIE RESERVE 54729—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—
- 0040 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—ASSET MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORTING—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 0041 HOUSING—ASSET MANAGEMENT—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—

30 MAY 2007

(Paper No. 5)

- 0042 HOUSING—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING RENTAL CALCULATIONS—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 0043 POLICE—POLICE PHOTOGRAPHING AT VIGIL—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0044 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—CORAMBA HYDROCARBON CONTAMINATION—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—
- 0045 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—TESTING AT CORAMBA FOR PETROL CONTAMINATION—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—
- 0046 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—IMPACT OF PETROL CONTAMINATION IN CORAMBA—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—
- 0047 HEALTH—HEALTH EFFECTS OF HYDROCARBON POLLUTION—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

- 0048 WATER UTILITIES—SYDNEY WATER CONSUMERS—Miss Gardiner to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Water Utilities—
- 0049 POLICE—NSW POLICE COLLEGE—Mr Gallacher to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0050 POLICE—PASSENGERS IN VEHICLES—Mr Gallacher to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0051 ATTORNEY-GENERAL—PASSENGERS IN VEHICLES—Mr Gallacher to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0052 PLANNING—LAND BASED AQUACULTURE IN PORT STEPHENS—Mr Cohen to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 0053 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—LAND BASED ACQUACULTURE—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0054 TOURISM—AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 0055 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—RURAL LANDS PROTECTION BOARD RATING REVIEW—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0056 HUNTER, INFRASTRUCTURE—EDEN CHIPMILL—Mr Cohen to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 0057 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—ACQUACULTURE—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—
- 0058 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—EVANS HEAD SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—

31 MAY 2007

(Paper No. 6)

- 0059 COMMUNITY SERVICES—BABY SHAKING—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Community Services—
- 0060 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—WARRINGAH COUNCIL—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)
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- 0061 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—BREWARRINA SHIRE COUNCIL—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health) —
- 0062 PLANNING—EVANS HEAD AERODROME CONTAMINATION—Mr Cohen to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 0063 HEALTH—EVANS HEAD AERODROME CONTAMINATION—Mr Cohen to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Health—
- 0064 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—EVANS HEAD AERODROME CONTAMINATION—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—
- 0065 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—BRIGALOW BELT STATE FOREST—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0066 PLANNING—ENERGY EFFICIENT HOMES—Mr Cohen to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 0067 PLANNING—SYDNEY METROPOLITAN STRATEGY—Ms Hale to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 0068 HOUSING—MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 0069 HOUSING—AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 0070 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—UPPER COX'S RIVER CATCHMENT—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—
- 0071 ROADS—ALSTONVILLE BYPASS—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 0072 ROADS—MYALL WAY INTERSECTION—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 0073 ROADS—COST OF PEARCES CREEK BRIDGE MAINTENANCE—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 0074 ROADS—COMPLETION OF PEARCES CREEK BRIDGE MAINTENANCE—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- 0075 PORTS AND WATERWAYS—SHELL GORE BAY TERMINAL—Mr Gay to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Small Business and Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 0076 ROADS—REGISTER OF ENCUMBERED VEHICLES SYSTEM—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 0077 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—CHARTER OPERATOR MYER BERG—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0078 ROADS—ROSALIND AUSTIN AND HEALTHQUEST—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 0079 ROADS—LAND OWNED BY THE ROADS AND TRAFFIC AUTHORITY—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 0080 ROADS—QUEENS ROAD, CANADA BAY—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

5 JUNE 2007

(Paper No. 7)

- 0081 LOCAL GOVERNMENT—LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL—Ms Ficarra to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health) —
- 0082 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS—CALTEX KURNELL REFINERY—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 0083 EMERGENCY SERVICES—CALTEX KURNELL REFINERY—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development representing the Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Water Utilities—
- 0084 PLANNING—CALTEX KURNELL REFINERY—Ms Hale to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 0085 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—TOORANGABY RED GUM FOREST—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0086 TREASURER—PURCHASE OF TOORANGABY—Mr Cohen to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 0087 ROADS—KANGAROO VALLEY ROADWORKS—Mr Gay to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

6 JUNE 2007

(Paper No. 8)

- 0088 HEALTH—PRISONERS' ACCESS TO METHADONE TREATMENT—Ms Hale to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Health—
- 0089 EDUCATION AND TRAINING—UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY AND TVS LIMITED BOARD—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

7 JUNE 2007

(Paper No. 9)

- 0090 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—CANOLA AND GENETIC ENGINEERING—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0091 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES—MACADAMIA GROWERS—Mr Cohen to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0092 ATTORNEY-GENERAL—RAILCORP TRANSIT FINES—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 0093 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—NORTH PARKES MINES WATER USAGE—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—
- 0094 CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER—MACQUARIE GENERATION'S SUPPLY OF WATER—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water—
- 0095 MINERAL RESOURCES—NORTH PARKES MINE WATER USAGE—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0096 MINERAL RESOURCES—MACQUARIE GENERATION'S SUPPLY OF WATER—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 0097 PLANNING—MOOLARBEN COAL MINE—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 0098 TRANSPORT—RAILCORP TRANSIT FINES—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 0099 PORTS AND WATERWAYS—ROSE BAY MARINA—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Small Business and Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- 0100 ROADS—CYCLISTS AND ROAD SAFETY—Ms Rhiannon to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 0101 POLICE—INCIDENT INVOLVING SHEELAGH CALLAGHAN—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0102 POLICE—INCIDENT AT MONS AVENUE, MAROUBRA—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0103 POLICE—DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY—Mr Gallacher to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0104 POLICE—DNA TESTING—Revd Mr Nile to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 0105 POLICE—INCIDENTS INVOLVING BICYCLES AND VEHICLES—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—

19 JUNE 2007

(Paper No. 10)

- 0106 COMMUNITY SERVICES—REDEEMER BAPTIST SCHOOL—Dr Kaye to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce representing the Minister for Community Services—
- (1) In each of the years 2000 to 2006, how many wards of the state, or other persons in out-of-home care, were sent as students by Wesley Mission or any organisation associated with, under the control of, or partially under the control of the Mission, to Redeemer Baptist School in North Parramatta?
 - (2) In each of the years 2000 to 2006, how many of these students were sent as boarders to Redeemer Baptist School in North Parramatta, or associated entities?
 - (3) For the year 2007 to date, how many such students have been sent to Redeemer Baptist School in North Parramatta:
 - (a) as students?
 - (b) as boarders?
 - (4)
 - (a) Has Wesley Mission been supplying students to Redeemer Baptist School to maintain the school's flagging enrolment numbers and to maintain state and federal funding and other per capita support?
 - (b) If so, what steps have been taken to investigate this?
- 0107 HEALTH—COSMETIC SURGEONS' QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING—Ms Ficarra to ask the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice representing the Minister for Health—
- (1)
 - (a) Is the use of the title 'surgeon' restricted to medical practitioners who are Fellows of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, under subsections 105 (1), (2) and (3) of the Medical Practice Act 1992 (NSW)?
 - (b) If not, how will the public be reassured regarding the qualifications and training of 'cosmetic surgeons' practising within New South Wales?

Lynn Lovelock
Clerk of the Parliaments

Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales