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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No. 61

TUESDAY 6 MAY 2008

The Questions and Answers Paper is published at the end of each sitting day and will contain, by number and title, all unanswered questions, together with questions to which answers have been received on that sitting day and any new questions. Consequently the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered. During any adjournment of two weeks or more a Questions and Answers Paper will be published from time to time containing answers received

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Publication of Questions	Answer to be lodged by
Q & A No. 53 (Including Question Nos 2362 to 2400)	06 May 2008
Q & A No. 54 (Including Question Nos 2401 to 2462)	07 May 2008
Q & A No. 55 (Including Question Nos 2463 to 2541)	08 May 2008
Q & A No. 56 (Including Question Nos 2542 to 2604)	09 May 2008
Q & A No. 57 (Including Question Nos 2605 to 2631)	13 May 2008
Q & A No. 58 (Including Question Nos 2632 to 2687)	14 May 2008
Q & A No. 59 (Including Question Nos 2688 to 2768)	15 May 2008
Q & A No. 60 (Including Question Nos 2769 to 2835)	16 May 2008
Q & A No. 61 (Including Question Nos 2836 to 2864)	10 June 2008

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1 APRIL 2008

(Paper No. 53)

*2362 ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Health—

- (1) How will the recent arrangements with the Federal Government assist the residents of Western Sydney?
- (2) What will be the impact on the funding for the Mount Druitt Hospital from these new arrangements?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) and (2) The Council of Australian Governments, at its meeting on 26 March 2008, agreed to roll over the 2003-2008 Australian Health Care Agreement for one year (2008-09) with a national funding increase of \$1 billion compared to 2007-08. This comprises \$500 million in indexation and a cash injection of new funds of \$500 million nationally.

NSW's share of these funds will be spent on improving access to hospital and community health services for NSW residents, including people living in Western Sydney.

The Australian Government has also provided additional funding of \$43.3 million to NSW to reduce waiting times for elective surgery across the State. The Sydney West Area Health service will use its share of these funds to ensure that over 550 additional patients currently waiting for an elective surgery procedure will be fast tracked for care. This will include people waiting for elective surgery at Mt Druitt Hospital.

*2363 WYMAH FERRY—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What public consultation is being undertaken with councils, farmers, emergency services personnel and tourism operators in the Albury electorate in relation to the review of operations of the Wymah ferry on the Murray River?
- (2) In view of the strong support from councils on both sides of the Murray River for retention of the ferry service, what measures are being considered to increase traffic usage?

Answer—

The RTA advises a public review will be undertaken by an independent consultant to examine the operations of the Wymah Ferry service and to identify possible areas of improvement.

Stakeholders will be contacted during the process to provide input. It is expected the review will be conducted and finalised in the second half of 2008.

I am advised the viability of the ferry service and ways it can be improved to increase patronage will be examined as part of the public review.

*2364 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM ELECTRICITY GENERATION—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation and "Jeff Angel's Report to the Energy Consultative Reference Committee" on behalf of the Total Environment Centre:

- (1) What is the Minister's response to Mr Angel's comment that "if the bulk of the generation system remains as coal (upgraded to USC [ultra supercritical coal]) and a new baseload is built about 2014 using USC or CCGT [combined circuit gas turbine], then the ability to reach the types of targets proposed for 2020 and 2050, is virtually impossible" (p. 4)?
- (2) If a new coal- or gas-fired power station is built in New South Wales by 2014, how does the Minister propose that the state's greenhouse gas emissions targets will be achieved, given that Mr Angel has stated that it will be "virtually impossible"?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The NSW Greenhouse Plan sets out how NSW will begin meeting greenhouse gas emission targets. Important ongoing initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions include the NSW Greenhouse Gas Abatement Scheme (GGAS), the Climate Change Fund, and the Building Sustainability Index (BASIX). The NSW Energy Efficiency Strategy will build on the wide range of initiatives that the Government has already undertaken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

*2365 ELECTRICITY PRIVATISATION—INDEMNITIES—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to Labor's electricity privatisation and "Jeff Angel's Report to the Energy Consultative Reference Committee" on behalf of the Total Environment Centre:

- (1) Does the Treasurer support Mr Angel's comment that paying "indemnities would greatly weaken climate change policy because they delay the restructuring of the coal based energy sector by preventing the transmission of a carbon cost signal into electricity prices and thus incentive to make choices about technology and practices that lead to the required significant reductions of greenhouse gas emissions" (p. 5)?
- (2) Can the Treasurer rule out the payment of any form of "indemnities" (or actions that effectively operate as "indemnities"), as detailed in Mr Angel's report (p. 5):
 - (a) "relief from existing NSW greenhouse gas abatement scheme obligations (for which existing utilities are currently obliged and will run to at least 2012 in order to mesh with national emissions trading);"
 - (b) "financial assistance to meet national carbon permit costs;"
 - (c) "government assurances about not seeking to reduce electricity demand through state action or not supporting national policies that have the same affect;"
 - (d) "support for free permits or federal compensation for the imposts arising from auctioning of carbon permits;"
 - (e) "support for 'safety valves' (for example coverage, time of entry of a sector, future relief mechanisms) in a national scheme;"
 - (f) "'last resort' concessions or guarantees where it can be demonstrated that security of supply will be compromised because the market fails to invest in new generation capacity due to uncertainty regarding emissions trading (this is an invitation to 'gaming' by owners and ignores government supply undertakings); and"
 - (g) "a general clause about any other types of policy or financial assistance"?

Answer—

I'm advised that the answer to these questions is contained in the NSW Government Response to the Unsworth Consultative Reference Committee's Impact Statement, under recommendation 25. A copy of the Government's response can be found at <http://www.nsw.gov.au/energy/>

*2366 JEFF ANGEL'S REPORT TO THE ENERGY CONSULTATIVE REFERENCE COMMITTEE—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to energy efficiency and "Jeff Angel's Report to the Energy Consultative Reference Committee" on behalf of the Total Environment Centre:

- (1) What is the Minister's response to Mr Angel's comment that in New South Wales "the decision and cultural frameworks of the major utilities do not give energy efficiency an appropriate place and there is a strong bias to continue to invest in supply options. As a result expensive supply options are invested in, rather than the cheaper option of energy efficiency (which also leads to higher price rises than necessary)" (p. 1)?
- (2) Will the Minister adopt Mr Angel's recommendation that "The NSW Government should urgently adopt in the first half of 2008, a comprehensive energy efficiency plan with ambitious targets. It should be structured to persist over 25 years and have a pervasive impact, rather than the ad hoc, boutique approaches of the past" (p. 8)?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) On 10 April 2008, the Government publicly responded to the 33 recommendations of the Energy Consultative Reference Committee. The published response is available at www.nsw.gov.au/energy

*2367 TRANSMISSION LINES ON BEAUFORT ROAD AND HASTINGS ROAD TERRIGAL—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Are the power poles in Beaufort Road and Hastings Road Terrigal capable of having 132kV

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transmission lines fitted as presently constructed?

- (2) Could the power poles accommodate 132kV transmission lines if they were upgraded or modified?
- (3) What was the nature of the "extensive routine maintenance" carried out on these poles last year (2007)?
- (4) Was the maintenance carried out in 2007 actually an upgrade to accommodate 132kV transmission lines?
- (5) (a) Will 132kV transmission lines be placed on poles along Beaufort Road and Hastings Road Terrigal?
(b) If so, when will this occur?
- (6) What action will Energy Australia take to protect Wamberal Lagoon and Terrigal Lagoon?
- (7) (a) Will any proposed power lines with 132kV capacity be re-routed?
(b) If so, where?

Answer—

- (1) No.
- (2) There are no plans to modify these power poles to accommodate 132kV lines, and significant technical investigation and design would be required as the poles would need to be substantially modified or replaced.
- (3) The existing 415V and 11kV circuits were enhanced under a reliability improvement program. The work involved replacing conductors and insulators and some minor vegetation clearance works.
The existing 66kV line on the same poles remain unchanged. It will be used to connect to the new Wamberal zone substation.
- (4) No.
- (5) EnergyAustralia has no plans to install 132kV power lines in Beaufort or Hastings Roads Terrigal.
- (6) EnergyAustralia has conducted a detailed environmental assessment during the two year consultation period of the Ourimbah to Wamberal power line.

All work in the area of Wamberal Lagoon and Terrigal Lagoon has been evaluated in detail in a Review of Environmental Factors (REF).

As a result of this comprehensive review, sections of the new power line near these lagoons will be placed underground. Relevant public authorities, including the DECC and NPWS, have been consulted in addition to an extensive period of community consultation. Factors such as acid sulphate soils and sediment control were examined as part of the REF and mitigation measures determined.

- (7) EnergyAustralia has no plans to install 132kV power lines in Beaufort or Hastings Roads Terrigal.

*2368 MINISTERIAL TRAVEL—ORKOPOULOS—Mr Chris Hartcher asked the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—

- (1) Did the former Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Milton Orkopoulos travel overseas at any time when he was Minister?
- (2) If so:
 - (a) Where?
 - (b) For how long?
 - (c) For what purpose?
 - (d) At what cost?
- (3) Who accompanied the Minister on each overseas trip?
- (4) (a) Did Peter Hillig ever accompany the Minister on an overseas trip?
(b) If so when and where and at what cost?

Answer—

I am advised that former Minister Orkopoulos made one Ministerial trip overseas to Wellington, New Zealand between 12 July 2006 and 15 July 2006 to attend a meeting of the Ministerial Council on Immigration and Multicultural Affairs. I am advised that Mr Peter Hillig did not accompany the Minister.

*2369 REFUND FROM PURCHASE OF PERPETUAL LEASE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

- (1) Will the Minister explain why the refund of part of the purchase price of Perpetual Lease 91122 under Schedule 7A of the Crown Lands Legislation Amendment (Budget) Act 2004 (Suburban

Holding 1923/1 Windsor) promised by the District Manager, Business Services, Crown Lands NSW, Sydney Metropolitan in a letter to Mr Tebbutt of Bilpin on 21 June 2005 has not been paid?

(2) What action will the Minister take to pay these outstanding monies?

Answer—

The Department of Lands' letter of 21 June 2005 to Mr Tebbutt regarding a refund was incorrect and sent without the approval of the appropriate delegated officer. A refund is not warranted as Mr Tebbutt's purchase application was rightly processed under the legislation in force at that time.

*2370 SCHOOL ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

(1) Which of the 225 NSW Public High Schools that are able to participate in the School Energy Efficiency Program are located in the Burrinjuck electorate?

(2) What are the names of these schools?

(3) How many of these schools have applied to participate in this program?

Answer—

All NSW Public High Schools are eligible to participate in the Schools Energy Efficiency Program. The program provides funding for lighting upgrades and for students to select and fund their own energy efficiency projects.

The program is jointly managed by the Department of Environment and Climate Change and the Department of Education and Training. Five schools have been selected to trial the program. At this stage, none of the trial schools are in the Burrinjuck electorate, however rollout of the program to other schools in the State will follow after an assessment of the trial has been completed.

Information on the Schools Energy Efficiency Program is available at www.environment.nsw.gov.au, and on the Sustainable Schools program at www.sustainableschools.nsw.gov.au. Additional information will be provided directly to schools as the programs are implemented.

*2371 OURGUNYA WOMEN'S INCORPORATION SAFE HOUSE FUNDING—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Community Services—

(1) Did an independent audit by Hoholt Accounting Services in 2005 of the Ourgunya Women's Inc Safe House at Brewarrina recommend that the service receive additional funding to allow it to meet the existing demand for services from the community?

(2) As this report was passed to DoCS, why has additional funding for this important service not been provided?

Answer—

(1) Yes.

(2) In June 2006 DoCS provided the service with an additional \$72,787.

Ourgunya is one of five Safe Houses in the Orana Far West for women and children affected by family and domestic violence. Base funding to each of the five Safe Houses was increased in 2007/2008.

*2372 DIETICIANS AND OTHER NUTRITION WORKERS—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Health—

How many dieticians and other nutrition workers were there in each hospital in NSW for the years:

(a) 2005;

(b) 2006;

(c) 2007?

Answer—

The NSW Department of Health routinely provides state-wide workforce data in its Annual Report.

To answer this question in the level of detail sought by the Member would on this occasion unjustifiably divert the resources of the Department and Area Health Service away from the exercise of their core functions.

*2373 HORNSBY COURT—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—

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- (1) Have the court days at Hornsby Court been reduced?
- (2) If so, what were the weekly hours and what are they now?
- (3) Why were the hours reduced?

Answer—

The Chief Magistrate is responsible for determining sitting arrangements of Local Courts throughout NSW. These arrangements are continuously reviewed to ensure the maximum use of judicial resources.

The sittings at Hornsby Local Court were varied on 4 February 2008 based on the workload. One court continues to sit fulltime, while the other court now sits every second week rather than weekly. The Chief Magistrate has also directed that all indictable matters from Hornsby Local Court be adjourned to the Downing Centre as part of the Centralised Committal Scheme.

However, effective from 7 July 2008 sittings at Hornsby will be temporarily increased with both courts sitting daily while Parramatta Local Court undergoes refurbishments.

*2374 UNITING CARE HOUSING AND SUPPORT INITIATIVE—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) How many Uniting Care Housing and Support Initiative (HASI) in the home places will be located in Hornsby?
- (2) Where will they be located and what form will they take?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) 240 HASI in the Home packages are being offered across NSW with 20 of these being offered to residents of the Hornsby-Ku-ring-gai locality.
- (2) HASI in the Home aims to assist people with mental health problems to participate in the community, maintain successful tenancies, improve quality of life, and assist in recovery from mental illness. The program will be structured along similar lines to previous HASI stages, with the exception that this program will support people in their existing accommodation.

Uniting Care is a non-government organisation which successfully tendered for the HASI in the Home program to NSW Health. Non clinical accommodation support will be provided by Uniting Care support workers with clinical support provided by the Area Health Service Mental Health Service.

*2375 SUSPENSION CENTRES—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many "Suspension Centres" are operating in NSW?
- (2) What is the closest centre for the students of the Wallsend electorate?
- (3) How is a student referred to these centres?
- (4) What is the success rate of these centres in returning students to mainstream schools?

Answer—

- (1) There are currently 22 suspension centres operating in NSW.
- (2) The closest centre for students of the Wallsend electorate is Cessnock.
- (3) Students referred to a suspension centre must be on a long suspension from school. The students must also be identified by their school as likely to benefit from a structured program to assist their successful return to schooling as soon as possible. As part of the suspension resolution process, students are nominated by the principal to participate in the suspension centre program. The suspension centre placement is agreed to by the student and the student's parents or caregivers.
- (4) Suspension centres are a new initiative and the Department of Education and Training is monitoring their effectiveness. Recent data continues to support suspension centres as an effective intervention.

*2376 ROAD SAFETY ON FOREST WAY—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) How many accidents occurred on Forest Way in the Davidson electorate in 2006 and 2007?
- (2) What plans have been considered to improve road safety for traffic turning right from Forest Way into Warringah Road?
- (3) What other plans does the RTA or the NSW Government have to improve traffic safety measures on Forest Way?

Answer—

I am advised:

In 2007, there were 56 reported crashes.

In 2006, there were 70 reported crashes.

Nearly 50% of crashes from January 2006 to December 2007 were rear-end crashes.

Based on the 2006 and 2007 crash data there were no recorded crashes for vehicles turning right from Warringah Road into Forest Way.

*2377 ELECTRICITY OUTAGES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

Regarding electricity outages affecting some part of the Electorate of Davidson:

- (1) What is the most number of times the worst performing circuit has gone out?
- (2) How many outages were there for this circuit?
- (3) How many of those outages were due to:
 - (a) overdemand from consumers;
 - (b) natural causes;
 - (c) accidents;
 - (d) other causes?

Answer—

- (1) Eight.
- (2) Eight.
- (3) (a) None.
 - (b) Six were likely natural causes.
 - (c) One.
 - (d) One.

*2378 SECTION 94 REFORMS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) What research has been undertaken into the effect of the NSW Government's proposed s.94 contribution reforms on Local Government?
- (2) How much less revenue does the Government project Local Government in NSW would receive per annum if the proposed s.94 reforms are implemented?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

Planning and development reforms are being undertaken by the Minister for Planning, the Hon Frank Sartor MP.

The Member may therefore wish to direct his question to the Minister for Planning.

*2379 VISITORS TO SYDNEY—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—

Given that the latest figures released in the National Visitor Survey indicated that the number of visitors and visitor nights to Sydney had declined during the period from December 2006 to December 2007, with visitors from Queensland down 13% and visitors from Melbourne down 7.2%:

What is being done to counteract the declining visitor numbers to Sydney?

Answer—

The National Visitor Survey (NVS) figures quoted above relate to the whole of NSW, not Sydney specifically. There are a number of factors, that when combined, had an impact on the number of visitors that NSW received in the survey period. Some of these included:

- reduced airline capacity through Sydney to other Australian destinations plus increased capacity on routes that excluded Sydney depleted visitor numbers from Queensland and Melbourne over the year;
- the increased cost of living reduced funds available for travel, which also competed with increased household spending on consumer items such as electronic goods and services; and

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- the strong Australian dollar favoured travel to overseas destinations rather than NSW, particularly by residents of other States.

However, holiday nights in regional NSW held steady and day-trippers to and in NSW increased by 9.6 percent for the year according to the NVS.

In the Australian market, Tourism NSW is undertaking a number of campaigns aimed at stimulating travel to and within NSW. In addition to ongoing promotions for Regional Flagship Events and the Caravan and Camping Show, campaigns in market to promote regional NSW during the first six-months of 2008 include:

- Short Breaks - Sydney Surrounds - Late January-February 2008 and Late March/May 2008
- South Coast of NSW - February 2008
- Heart of Country NSW - February-March 2008
- NSW Snowy Mountains - March 2008
- NSW Outback - March 2008
- North Coast of NSW - April 2008 and May 2008
- NSW Snowy Mountains - Spring Ski - April 2008
- Lord Howe Island - May 2008
- Murray - June 2008

The above represents more than \$6.2 million worth of industry and government investment.

In addition, more than \$2.46 million of government and industry funds have been invested in marketing and promoting Sydney through two major domestic campaigns in 2007-08 (September 2007 to March 2008 and March 2008 to August 2008).

Tourism NSW uses television, print and digital media along with consumer promotions to inspire travellers to visit Sydney and NSW.

*2380 SPEEDING INFRINGEMENTS—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) What are the daily figures relating to the number of infringements issued from the Ewingsdale fixed location speed camera from 29 March 2007 to present date broken down into direction of travel (i.e. south bound and north bound)?
- (2) What is the average number of infringements issued per speed camera per day in New South Wales?

Answer—

I am advised that, like all speed cameras in NSW, the Ewingsdale speed camera undergoes a rigorous testing and maintenance regime, which includes testing at least 15 times each year.

I am advised that in response to community concern, the RTA carried out thorough investigations on the Ewingsdale speed camera. These investigations confirmed the camera was working accurately.

I am further advised that the RTA examined a random sample of speed camera offences that were recorded in June last year and found that in every case the camera was correct.

RTA technicians, along with the camera's manufacturers, visited the Ewingsdale site to conduct further tests on the speed camera. These tests proved the camera was working accurately and there were no faults in the system.

I am further advised that every speed camera's recording device in NSW is inspected every 30 days, undergoes a speed measurement test at least every six months, and certification testing at least every 12 months (as required by legislation). The RTA's testing and maintenance regime meets, and in many cases exceeds, international best practice.

*2381 REDUCED TARGETS FOR CARBON EMISSIONS—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—

In the event of any privatisation of the power industry, will the Treasurer guarantee the nature, implementation and timing of environmental upgrades to meet reduced targets for carbon emissions by their inclusion in any lease document associated with the power stations?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The carbon emissions for the electricity sector will be regulated by the cap and trade emissions trading arrangements to be introduced by the Commonwealth Government from 2010. These will apply to all electricity generators, whether privately or publicly owned.

*2382 TAXI TRANSPORT SUBSIDY SCHEME—Mr Greg Piper asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

Why is the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme for people with severe and permanent disabilities no longer available to hire cars - particularly in areas where taxis are either unavailable or small in number?

Answer—

I am advised:

The Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme has never included hire cars.

The Scheme relies on the use of taxi-meters to calculate the amount of subsidy payable. Hire cars do not have taxi-meters and are prohibited by law from having them.

Moreover, hire cars are not wheelchair accessible and have been exempted by the Commonwealth Government from all requirements of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport.

The NSW Community Transport Program aims to address the needs of transport disadvantaged people at the local level by facilitating the efficient use of transport resources that already exist within the community. Community transport targets people whose access to mainstream transport services is limited by physical, social or geographic factors.

*2383 HUNTER INSTITUTE OF TAFE—Mr Greg Piper asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

Will the Minister for Education explain how the Hunter Institute of TAFE can deliver 114 hours of teaching and 5 assessments in the Certificate 3 Horticulture - Retail course in 20 hours, and how this extreme course compression can be justified as educationally sound?

Answer—

TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute is not delivering this course in 20 hours. To enable the three re-enrolled students in Certificate III Horticulture – Retail to complete their final year of study, a composite group of third year horticulture trade students has been formed.

The composite program includes 41 hours of face-to-face teaching, 72 hours of simulated work practice and 23 hours of group tutorial support to assist learners during their simulated work practice.

*2384 CATTLE TICK FEVER—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

Given that it was reported last week in Tweed local media that a dozen cattle had died from cattle tick fever spread from Queensland:

- (1) Have the cattle responsible for this outbreak of cattle tick fever been quarantined?
 - (a) If yes, on what date did this occur and how many cattle in NSW have died from the fever spread by infected cattle?
 - (b) If no, does the Minister know where the infected cattle are presently located and will he ensure that they are quarantined?
- (2) Given that the NSW Government has failed to stop the spread of cattle tick fever into NSW, will the Government provide compensation to graziers whose cattle have died as a result of this outbreak?
- (3) What measures are being taken by the NSW Government to contain the outbreak of cattle tick fever and to ensure that it does not spread to other properties in NSW?

Answer—

I thank the Honourable member for the opportunity to update the house on the recent outbreak of tick fever on the NSW Far North Coast.

- (1) Yes. The initial infected property was quarantined on 26 March 2008. The cattle responsible for the disease were owned by neighbours, and had moved to another location. These animals were traced and quarantined on 29 March. Fifteen cattle died from the spread of tick fever.
- (2) No. The NSW Government works with stock owners to control and eradicate cattle ticks. Tick fever can only occur if cattle ticks are present. As recommended in an independent enquiry carried out by

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the former Nationals Minister and Member for Orange, Mr Gary West, the government's investment is in controlling and eradicating ticks to reduce the risk of tick fever occurring.

- (3) All the at-risk properties have been identified and quarantined. Properties will not be released from quarantine until Cattle Tick eradication programs supervised by departmental staff are complete. All at-risk cattle have also been treated with anti tick fever drugs.

*2385 CLOSURE OF LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

Given that the NSW Education Department has advised that students seeking a new high school after the closure of Lakeside Christian High School are able to enrol in Tweed public high schools:

- (1) Are there sufficient positions available in Tweed public high schools to cater for the 120 displaced Lakeside students?
- (2) What alternatives are there if there is not sufficient positions available in both Tweed public and private high schools for the 120 displaced Lakeside students?
- (3) Given that administrators have stated that the future of the Lakeside Christian Primary School is unsecured past April 2008, will there be sufficient places for the 107 Lakeside primary students should their school also be forced to close?

Answer—

(1) and (2) The NSW Department of Education and Training will provide placement for local students from Lakeside Christian College who live within the designated zone of a particular school. If special circumstances exist, students may also apply for placement in a non-local school of their choice. The NSW Department of Education and Training is not responsible for the enrolment of students in non-government schools.

(3) As is the case for high school students, Tweed primary schools will provide placement for all local primary students. Students may also apply for placement in a non-local school of their choice.

*2386 CANCER PATIENTS—NSW NORTH COAST—Mr Geoff Provest asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

In relation to cancer patients on the NSW North Coast and given that the Lismore Base Hospital has received funding approval for the construction of new radiotherapy facilities:

- (1) What is the number of registered cancer patients in the Lismore-Ballina area as stated in the funding submission made to the NSW Department of Health for the new radiotherapy facilities?
- (2) Will any funding commitments be made by the Government for the development of radiotherapy facilities in the Tweed and Murwillumbah Hospitals?

Answer—

I am advised by the Chief Executive of the North Coast Area Health Service:

- (1) The total projected number of cancer cases for the Lismore Integrated Cancer Unit catchment area are estimated to be approximately 1165 cases by 2011.
- (2) Strategic planning of radiotherapy services recognises that patients generally will access services in closer geographical proximity to their residence or metropolitan services that provide outreach services.

In an area such as the Far North Coast this will include patients flowing across State borders to access treatment where appropriate.

Residents of the Tweed Shire can currently access radiotherapy services in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast. In addition, Queensland Health are currently planning for public radiotherapy services for the Tweed/Gold Coast region at the new Gold Coast University Hospital, to be developed on the Griffith University Gold Coast Campus at Parklands.

Recent major studies conducted by both the Commonwealth and NSW Governments have assessed the need for additional radiotherapy services on the State's North Coast.

Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour were identified as top priorities for new public radiotherapy facilities with Lismore as the next priority.

As a result of a \$40 million investment by the Labor Government new facilities at Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie are already up and running while Lismore's radiotherapy unit is scheduled to be completed by June 2010 as part of the overall redevelopment of the city's hospital.

The NSW Government will continue to monitor local demand when planning for future roll-outs of radiotherapy equipment.

*2387 BROUGHTONS PASS WEIR—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

- (1) How much water was released per day from Broughtons Pass Weir to compensate for losses due to subsidence in Cataract River in:
 - (a) 2004;
 - (b) 2005;
 - (c) 2006;
 - (d) 2007;
 - (e) 2008?
- (2) How much money did BHP Billiton pay per day for water to be released from Broughtons Pass Weir to compensate for losses due to subsidence in Cataract River in:
 - (a) 2004;
 - (b) 2005;
 - (c) 2006;
 - (d) 2007;
 - (e) 2008?
- (3) When did BHP Billiton first register its desire not to pay for this water?
- (4) On what date was the release lowered from 1.7 ML/day to 1.4 ML/day?
- (5) Why was the release lowered?

Answer—

- (1) Nil.
- (2) N/A.
- (3) N/A.
- (4) From 23 June 2005 to 4 March 2008, releases from Broughton's Pass Weir were lowered to 1 ML/day.
- (5) Releases were lowered as a requirement of the water management licence. This was done to help secure Sydney's water supplies in the face of prolonged drought and falling storage levels. Releases have now been restored.

*2388 RADIOACTIVE STORAGE SITES—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Does NSW Labor still oppose any plan to create a radioactive waste repository in the state?
- (2) Has the Department of Environment and Conservation completed the inventory of non-ANSTO radioactive storage sites promised in 2004?
- (3) What is the name of that list?
- (4) How many sites are on that list?
- (5) Has the Department of Environment and Conservation identified any non-ANSTO radioactive storage sites where upgrading of facilities is required?

Answer—

- (1) The NSW Government does not see the need for a radioactive substances waste repository in NSW.
- (2) Since July 2004, the Department of Environment and Climate Change has maintained a register of all non-ANSTO radioactive substances storage sites.
- (3) The database that contains this information is called the Radiation Information Management System.
- (4) As at 18 April 2008, there were 295 premises listed on this database.
- (5) Yes.

*2389 LORD HOWE ISLAND—BAITING—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) What precedents are there for the aerial baiting of 85 per cent of an inhabited island by helicopter with rat poison?

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- (2) How does the Government plan to 'round up' currawongs on Lord Howe Island?
- (3) Has the Minister read the 2001 report on baiting Lord Howe Island by New Zealand ecologists Alan Saunders and Derek Brown warning that 'some native animals will ingest toxin' and that 'the loss of a few individuals of a native species may be seen as acceptable'?
- (4) Does the Minister see the loss of a few Lord Howe Island woodhens as acceptable?
- (5) Does the Minister think it is worthwhile risking 10 endangered species on Lord How Island to enable one to be returned to the wild?

Answer—

(1) The eradication of rodents from the World Heritage listed Lord Howe Island is an important and responsible step to eliminate an ongoing ecosystem-wide threat. Similar rodent eradication programs (using aerial baiting) have been conducted on the inhabited islands of Denis and Frégate in the Seychelles, with recovery of threatened species subsequently reported.

The proposed rodent eradication program for the 1,500-hectare Lord Howe Island would involve aerial baiting and ground baiting. The 270-hectare settlement area would be excluded from aerial baiting so as to minimise the chance of any baits landing on roofs or entering water collection systems. Whilst the bait toxin does not contaminate water supplies, the Board intends taking a precautionary approach.

(2) In 2005 and 2007, in order to test the practicality of a rodent eradication program, more than 50 per cent of the currawong population of Lord Howe Island was trapped and released. This exercise demonstrated that, using appropriately qualified operators, trapping and release could be undertaken without harming the birds or disrupting their breeding or territorial behaviour.

(3) and (4) I am aware of this report and understand that it has been used to inform the development of the proposed rodent eradication strategy on Lord Howe Island. In particular, it sets out much of the research required before an eradication strategy could be carried out.

(5) Rats have been implicated in the extinction of five endemic bird species on Lord Howe Island as well as loss of the phasmid. Rats have significant impacts on the Island's unique vegetation communities, and inflict major economic losses on the local palm industry. The elimination of rats from the island would remove an ongoing ecological threat, as well as facilitating the reintroduction of the Phasmid, and remove the need for ongoing use of rodenticides.

Rodent eradication on Lord Howe Island is being meticulously planned, with assistance from international scientists with expertise in this field.

*2390 ELECTRICITY PRIVATISATION—Mr George Souris asked the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—

What will happen to those that do not wish to take up employment with the new company but are not resigning from Macquarie Generation?

Answer—

The employment of all award and agreement staff of the State electricity generators will be transferred to the new operators of the generation assets, unless individual staff members choose to resign or retire prior to the date of transfer.

The new operators will require the skills and expertise of current employees to ensure the smooth ongoing operation of the business.

A key issue for the Government in responding to Professor Owen's recommendations is to ensure ongoing job security and financial incentives for staff. To achieve this, employment will be guaranteed for 5 years from transfer to the new operator. A transfer package has also been proposed for staff.

*2391 DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

- (1) How many demountable classrooms are there currently across all public schools in the Pittwater electorate?
- (2) How many demountable classrooms have been replaced with permanent classrooms across all public schools in the Pittwater electorate since 1 January 2007?

Answer—

- (1) There are 15 demountable classrooms at public schools in the Pittwater electorate.
- (2) Nil.

*2392 MONA VALE HOSPITAL—FOOD SAFETY AUDIT—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Health—

- (1) Was Mona Vale Hospital part of the recent safety audit conducted by the NSW Food Authority?
- (2) If Mona Vale Hospital did not take part in this audit why was it excluded?
- (3) Did Mona Vale Hospital meet all the standards covered in the audit?

Answer—

The NSW Food Authority falls within the Ministerial responsibility of the Minister for Primary Industries and the question should be re-directed accordingly.

- *2393 SPEEDING FINES IN 40 KPH SCHOOL ZONES—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

How many people have been fined for speeding in 40 kph school zones in the Pittwater electorate in the past 12 months?

Answer—

I am advised the number of fixed camera speeding infringements issued in 40 km/h school zones in the Pittwater electorate in the last twelve months is 4,964.

- *2394 BUS SAFETY MODELLING—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

- (1) What were the results of recently completed bus safety modelling based on the 2005 Australian Transport Council National Guidelines Assessment?
- (2) Which areas were highlighted as high risk areas?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) The Ministry of Transport has adopted the Australian Transport Council approved National Guidelines for Risk Assessment of School Bus Routes and a detailed school bus route risk assessment project is currently underway.
- (2) Until the modelling exercise is complete, it is not possible to definitively identify 'high risk' routes.

- *2395 MID NORTH COAST STRATEGY—LATE APPLICATIONS—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

- (1) How many late applications for changes and/or additions to the Mid North Coast Strategy have been received and who were these late applications received from?
- (2) What was the nature of each of these late applications?
- (3) What has been the outcome of these applications i.e. rejected, approved or still under consideration?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) Over 300 submissions were received in response to the draft growth area maps from government departments, local government, environment groups, industry groups, community organisations, individuals and planning consultants acting on behalf of landowners.
- (2) The majority of the submissions were requests for inclusion of additional residential land or employment land or requests for exclusion of land.
- (3) The submissions are still being reviewed.

- *2396 NSW COMMUNITY COLLEGES—FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

- (1) Will a longer term, three-year funding agreement for NSW Community Colleges be implemented given the existing yearly funding cycle leaves many colleges unable to forward plan until they are notified of funding arrangements which last year did not occur until quite late in the year?
- (2) If not, why not?

Answer—

The Adult and Community Education Unit of the Department has commissioned an independent review of the Adult and Community Education Funding Program.

The review will involve research into good practice programs across the country and consultations with key stakeholders, including community colleges.

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*2397 NEW STAFFING PROPOSALS—Mr Richard Torbay asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

- (1) What are the Government's incentives for 'Hard to Staff' schools given the new staffing proposals?
- (2) Given that education is the opportunity to escape socio-economic disadvantage, what impact does the Minister envisage the proposed staffing changes will have on opportunities for students in rural electorates such as Northern Tablelands?
- (3) Without an assurance of transfer how will the new staffing proposals assist teachers in gaining experience for career enhancement?
- (4) How will the changes assist or improve the needs of schools given the impact on teachers' willingness to serve in more remote areas of the state?

Answer—

(1) Under the new staffing procedures, all of the incentives that the Department of Education and Training currently provides to an eight, six or four point incentive school are secure and unchanged.

These incentives are:

- priority for transfer to a vacancy in an agreed location or area following the required period of service;
- compassionate transfer status for teaching partners moving in or out of positions in eight and six point schools;
- 90 per cent rental subsidies for teachers in hard to staff areas of NSW (eight point schools) and 70 per cent in the next most difficult to staff locations (six point schools);
- an annual retention benefit of \$5,000 gross for a maximum of five years in forty of the most difficult to staff schools in NSW for teachers who stay at the school beyond the service requirements;
- enhanced personal leave for teachers in isolated rural schools so that they can attend to personal and/or family commitments;
- four additional training and development days per annum for teachers in eight and six point schools and one additional day for teachers in four point incentive schools; and
- locality allowances for teachers in schools in specified localities which provide compensation for additional costs incurred in living in those areas.

A working party is also looking at new and additional incentives that may apply to particular schools.

(2) Under the new staffing procedures, the statewide system of schools will continue to be supported by a statewide system of staffing.

The Department will continue to ensure that every class in NSW public schools is taught by a qualified teacher.

(3) and (4) Teachers in eight, six and four point incentive schools will continue to be able to apply for an incentive transfer when they have completed their period of service in the school. The principal and school education director will confirm the teacher's competence based on the Teacher Assessment and Review Schedule or the Principal Assessment and Review Schedule in the case of principals.

The teacher will be given priority for placement if a vacancy occurs in a school that is on their preference list for appointment. There is no power of veto to the appointment by the receiving school, or by anyone else.

Under the new staffing procedures, once priority placements have been made, schools will be able to choose how they appoint their teachers. Schools may choose to fill a position through advertisement, or from the service transfer, graduate recruitment or employment lists.

Where the school chooses to fill a position from the service transfer, graduate recruitment or employment lists, it may request the central staffing unit at Blacktown to appoint the top match from the appropriate list, or ask to consider all teachers from the appropriate list who match the position and who are interested in moving to the school.

Giving schools some choice on top of all of the existing arrangements provides a welcome opportunity for many school communities, gives more experienced and new teachers more chances to teach in schools they want to, and builds on the strengths of the current arrangements.

*2398 INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

Given the extensive residential growth in the electorate of Hawkesbury in suburbs such as Rouse Hill, Kellyville, Beaumont Hills and Glenhaven over the past ten years and the expectation of a further 60,000 homes to be built in this area over the next ten years as part of the Metropolitan Strategy:

Will the Minister advise whether he has ever caught public transport to the North West area of Sydney in peak hour to assess the outcomes of planning by the Government over the past ten years in terms of providing appropriate infrastructure, such as the proposed North West Rail Line, to this area?

Answer—

The Iemma Government is committed to delivering a world class transport system for Sydney.

The recently announced Sydney Link is a series of major transport projects, including the North West Metro, the South West Rail Link, and a possible future metro to the west and to the south east. This is the culmination of the work first detailed in the Urban Transport Statement.

The North West Metro is a \$12 billion European-style metro rail line which will service growth areas from the CBD to the city's North West. The project will provide fast, high capacity rail services – independent to the CityRail network.

This is the largest expansion of the rail network since the 1930s and will put services into the growing areas of the north west and south west of Sydney.

The North West Metro will also provide benefits for existing rail users by reducing crowding on the existing Western, Richmond, Main North and North Shore rail lines.

Construction of the new line will begin from both ends in 2010, with the first trains operating between Epping and the Hills Centre in 2015. The metro line will then extend to Rouse Hill, with metros running between Rouse Hill and the CBD by 2017.

Sydney Link is building for Sydney's future. As a major global city, Sydney continues to grow at a rapid pace. A modern city requires modern, integrated and efficient transport. Sydney Link will provide the right transport system to meet the anticipated population growth over the next 15 years of more than one million people.

*2399 FREEHOLD TITLE OF LAND—MR MARTIN TEBBUTT—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

Given the Department of Lands wrote to Mr Martin and Mrs Marion Tebbutt advising them that they would receive a refund for additional money paid to purchase their freehold title of land at Bilpin and that amendments to the legislation allow leaseholders to purchase the freehold title of land for 3% of the market value of that land:

Will the Minister advise when Mr Martin and Mrs Marion Tebbutt will receive a refund for the additional amount of money paid to purchase their freehold title of land which cost them \$409,300 when it should have cost them only \$12,000?

Answer—

The Department of Lands' letter of 21 June 2005 to Mr Tebbutt regarding a refund was incorrect and sent without the approval of the appropriate delegated officer. A refund is not warranted as Mr Tebbutt's purchase application was rightly processed under the legislation in force at that time.

*2400 BREAST CANCER TESTING—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Health—

Given there are many women suffering breast cancer as a result of not having regular testing, will the Minister advise when the New South Wales State Government will provide increased facilities for women to be tested for breast cancer regardless of age?

Answer—

I am advised by the Chief Cancer Officer, and Chief Executive Officer of the Cancer Institute of NSW:

There is no evidence to suggest that there are many women suffering breast cancer as a result of not having regular screening. It should be noted that screening is for women who do not have symptoms. Women with symptoms should see their doctor for appropriate diagnosis and treatment.

In the last few years an increase in the numbers of women in the target age group of 50-69 years attending for biennial screening through BreastScreen NSW has occurred. All women aged 40 years and over are eligible to attend the BreastScreen NSW program for biennial screening. Under National

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Guidelines, mammographic screening is not recommended for women younger than 40 years due to the greater density of breast tissue making it more difficult for screening mammograms to show the changes that may indicate cancer.

In March 2007, the Hon Morris Iemma MP Premier of New South Wales announced a \$26 million upgrade of breast cancer services for NSW women. The rollout of new digital mammography systems for BreastScreen NSW announced as part of this package has already commenced, with up to eight (8) screening centres and five (5) mobile screening vans expected to have this state-of-the-art technology available by July 2008.

The NSW Government has provided additional funds for increased after hours appointments at BreastScreen NSW screening centres. This funding was in addition to the various screening centres and mobile screening vans that already provide after hours screening appointments.

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*2401 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS—Mr Richard Amery asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) Do local councils in New South Wales receive financial assistance grants from both Federal and State Government?
- (2) If so, under what schemes or programmes are these grants provided by the:
 - (a) Federal Government;
 - (b) State Government?
- (3) What role does the Department of Local Government play in ensuring these grants are audited and spent on community projects?
- (4) Is there any requirement for a local council to provide details on how these grants are spent?
- (5) If so, is the information available concerning both specific purpose grants and united general purpose grants?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) Local councils in New South Wales receive financial assistance grants from Federal and State Government.
- (2) I can only comment on grant schemes that fall under my local government portfolio:
 - (a) The NSW Local Government Grants Commission, which is established under the Local Government Act 1993 and administered within the Department of Local Government, makes recommendations on federally funded financial assistance grants.
 - (b) The Department of Local Government recently announced grants for councils for the upgrade of playground equipment.
- (3) The federal grants recommended by the Grants Commission are paid to councils unconditionally. Accordingly, there is no acquittal required on how the funds are spent.
Projects funded under the playground equipment grants scheme will require independent post-completion audits.
- (4) There is no requirement for councils to provide details on how their federally funded financial assistance grants are spent.
Councils report to their communities on proposed spending in their management plans each year.
- (5) Information about the federally funded financial assistance grants is published on the Department of Local Government's web site, as well as on the web site of the federal Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

There will be a formal announcement about the playground equipment grants when the successful applicants have been decided.

2402 TOURIST DEVELOPMENT AT NOBBY'S HEADLAND—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

2403 NELSON BAY AMBULANCE STATION—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Health—

- 2404 POST STEPHENS LOCAL AREA COMMAND—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2405 ILUKA POLICE STATION—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2406 ILUKA POLICE STATION—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2407 DENTAL CARE—WAITING TIMES—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2408 ARUMA DENTAL CLINIC—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2409 PACIFIC HIGHWAY—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- *2410 SNOWY HYDRO CORPORATION—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to Snowy Hydro Corporation and the Minister's response to a Question Without Notice on 4 March 2008:

- (1) On what date did the Minister meet with "representatives of Snowy Hydro in Cooma"?
- (2) Which "representatives of Snowy Hydro" did the Minister meet in "at least two or three groups", and in which "groups" did the Minister meet them?
- (3) What did the Minister mean when he informed the Legislative Council that the "representatives of Snowy Hydro" conveyed to him that they "might be left stranded in the privatisation debate"?
- (4) What reasons did the "representatives of Snowy Hydro" provide the Minister in support of their argument that they "might be left stranded in the privatisation debate"?
- (5) Who are the "number of my [the Minister's] colleagues" who demonstrated a "degree of upset" about there being "no plans whatsoever to privatise the Snowy Hydro Corporation"?
- (6) Is the Government considering the sale of NSW's shareholding in Snowy Hydro to one or more of the other current shareholders, that is, the Victorian or Federal Governments?

Answer—

- (1) to (5) As part of my portfolio responsibilities I have met with numerous stakeholder groups.
- (6) No.

- *2411 MUNMORAH POWER STATION—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to Munmorah power station and "Jeff Angel's Report to the Energy Consultative Reference Committee" on behalf of the Total Environment Centre:

- (1) Given that to continue operating the power station requires "necessary refurbishment to extend the life of the Munmorah Power Station beyond 2012" ("Delta Electricity Submission to NSW Government: Owen Inquiry into the Supply of Electricity in NSW", p. 47), will the Minister follow Mr Angel's advice that "The permanent closure of Munmorah as a coal power station site and removing the option of its refurbishment, would be a strong signal from the government about its climate change credentials" (p. 7)?
- (2) Will the Minister follow Mr Angel's advice that "The peaking Colongra 660MW open cycle gas turbine is already being built at Munmorah and according to Delta it could be converted to 1000MW baseload CCGT [closed cycle gas turbine] by 2011" (p. 7)?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) The NSW Government detailed its response to the Unsworth Committee recommendations on Thursday, April 10 2008.

- *2412 DOOR TO DOOR SALES OF RETAIL ENERGY—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to sales practices by energy retailers and "The Rev. Harry Herbert's Report to the Energy Consultative Reference Committee" on behalf of UnitingCare and low income earners:

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(1) Will the Minister act on the advice of Rev Herbert to "Strengthen rules to ensure electricity retailers comply with ethical rules in regards to door-to-door marketing of their products. Penalties to be applied where this is not the case. Energy and Water Ombudsman to have powers to order compensation payments to consumers where unfair practices have occurred" (p. 1)?

(2) If so, what action will the Minister take?

Answer—

(1) and (2) On 10 April 2008, the Government publicly responded to the 33 recommendations of the Energy Consultative Reference Committee. The published response is available at

www.nsw.gov.au/energy

2413 NSW GOVERNMENT BIOBANKING SCHEME—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

2414 ENVIRONMENTAL FLOW LEVELS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

2415 NSW RIVERBANK ENVIRONMENTAL FUND—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

*2416 CORRESPONDENCE FROM MRS K CUBBON—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Community Services—

(1) Why has the Minister not replied to the urgent correspondence sent to him by email by Mrs K Cubbon of Rankin Park on 12 March 2008?

(2) Why has the Director General of the Department of Community Services not replied to the urgent correspondence sent by Mrs Cubbon to him by email on 14 February 2008?

(3) Why did DoCS not agree to Mr and Mrs Cubbon's request for financial support to care for their grandchild on 29 January 2008?

(4) Given that the child was in the care of Mr and Mrs Cubbon for about four months and that they made full disclosure to DoCS staff of all their family circumstances at the time of being given care of the child, why was he subsequently removed from their care on 19 February 2008?

Answer—

(1) to (4) These questions relate to casework matters and have been addressed in my response to Mrs Cubbon, a copy of which I have sent to the Honourable Member.

*2417 ABORIGINAL HOUSING—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

(1) How many dedicated houses are available in the Burrinjuck Electorate through the Department of Housing and other sources that are dedicated for use by Aboriginal tenants?

(2) How many people are on the waiting list for housing in the Onerwal Lands Council area?

(3) On what date was the last Aboriginal housing home constructed in Yass and in the Burrinjuck electorate, under the Community Housing and Infrastructure Program?

Answer—

As these matters fall within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Housing, it is recommended that these questions be referred to the Hon Matt Brown MP.

2418 BRANCH LINE CLOSURES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2419 SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION PACKAGES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—

2420 ALCOHOL ADDICTION REHABILITATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—

*2421 HAWKESBURY RIVER ASSESSMENT—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

When will the next assessment on the health of the Hawkesbury River take place in light of the

connection to sewerage of Brooklyn and Dangar Island?

Answer—

Overall responsibility for the health of the Hawkesbury River rests with the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment.

Specifically in relation to the Brooklyn-Dangar Island Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) however, the statutory approval for its construction contains conditions that require Sydney Water to ensure a high level of effluent quality from the new STP, and to confirm this through a robust water quality monitoring program.

The program is being developed in consultation with the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC), the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Hornsby Shire Council, and will include a number of detailed field monitoring activities. The program is due to be submitted to DECC by 30 June 2008. Once in place, this monitoring will add to other monitoring already undertaken by Sydney Water to gauge the potential impact from existing STPs that discharge to the river. This reporting data is posted annually to Sydney Water's website.

The Brooklyn-Dangar Island STP has commenced operation and discharges in accordance with an Environmental Protection Licence issued by DECC. It is expected that the monitoring program will confirm the project's objectives to reduce environmental degradation, and improve public health. Prior to this the residents of Brooklyn and Dangar Island relied on individual septic tanks, some of which were poorly maintained and overflowing into the estuary.

*2422 COUNTRY TOWNS WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE PROGRAM—Ms Sonia Hornery asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

- (1) What is the Government doing under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program to update water and sewerage services to the Wallsend Electorate?
- (2) How many projects are currently under construction in the Wallsend Electorate?
- (3) How many projects have been funded since March 2007?

Answer—

- (1) The Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage (CTWSS) Program provides technical and financial assistance to country-based local water utilities. Funds are not available from the current Program for works in the major metropolitan water authorities' areas of operations - i.e. Hunter Water Corporation (HWC) or Sydney Water Corporation (SWC). These are large water utilities with a large rate base and are not in need of funding under this Program.
- (2) There are no projects in the electorate of Wallsend that are currently funded under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program (CTWSS). The electorate lies wholly within the area of operations of Hunter Water Corporation (HWC) and is therefore not eligible for funding under the CTWSS Program. Instead projects are funded by HWC.
- (3) The NSW Government has made 57 grant offers to country-based local water utilities since March 2007 with a total value of over \$35 million.

2423 TUBERCULOSIS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Health—

2424 ILLAWARRA LINE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2425 HEAVY VEHICLE LICENCE TEST—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

*2426 NIMBO CREEK—Mr Daryl Maguire asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

- (1) On what principle have water flows to the Nimbo Creek been reduced?
- (2) What is the real purpose of the newly constructed choke on the Nimbo Creek?
- (3) Why was the new choke level lifted higher than the previous choke?
- (4) How much water does the 10 km of Nimbo Creek hold?
- (5) How many landholders are affected by the installation of the new choke?
- (6) What arrangements have been made to offer landholders alternative means of watering their stock?
- (7) What arrangements have been made to supply Brungle with a permanent water supply?
- (8) How much did the choke cost to construct?
- (9) Why was the 2007 rebuilt choke so completely different in design and specifications from the

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previous 2002 choke?

- (10) (a) Were proper procedures followed before this new, rebuilt 2007 choke was installed?
(b) If not, why not?

Answer—

I am advised:

(1) The main flows in the Nimbo Creek are opportunistic - they are reliant on flows in the regulated Tumut River. As a result of the worst drought on record, releases from Blowering Dam to the Tumut River have been regulated at minimum flow demand requirements to ensure excess water is not wasted.

(2) and (3) A rock offtake structure was constructed in 2002 and remains in place. The purpose of the rock offtake structure was to ensure the stability of the Creek and to prevent land erosion. The Department of Water and Energy is not aware of any modifications to the rock offtake structure and has not issued any approval for such work to be undertaken during 2007.

(4) Main flows down the Nimbo Creek are reliant on flows in the Tumut River. Before the choke was constructed in 2002, the maximum measured flow at the offtake from the Tumut River was 1,200 megalitres/day when the flow in the Tumut was approximately 9,500 megalitres/day. The maximum measured flow in the Tumut River since construction of the rock offtake structure has been 9,270 megalitres/day, which provided a flow of 1,090 megalitres/day down the Nimbo Creek.

(5) There are sixteen landholders along the Nimbo Creek. Some of these landholders have multiple frontages.

(6) Stock watering points have and can be made available on a needs basis, undertaken as part of the Department's Tumut River erosion control program.

(7) Tumut Council is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Brungle's town water supply, which is currently sourced from the Nimbo Creek. Council has indicated that it was investigating alternate supply options, but the Department of Water and Energy has received no formal notification.

(8) The rock offtake structure that was constructed in 2002 was a component of the Department's annual erosion control program for the Tumut River.

(9) and (10) Refer to answer (2) above.

2427 RTA DATABASE—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

2428 TOY POKER MACHINES—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—

2429 TOY POKER MACHINES—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Youth, Minister for Volunteering—

*2430 RIVER RED GUM FORESTS—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

With regard to commercial logging in the River Red Gum forests:

- (1) How many environment impact assessments has Forests NSW carried out in the River Red Gum forest region specifically to determine the impact of the logging industry in the Red Gums in the last 10 years?
- (2) How many threatened species exist in the River Red Gum forests?
- (3) For which types of threatened species, excluding the Superb Parrot and the Regent Parrot are pre-harvest and routine surveys undertaken in the River Red Gum forests?
- (4) Is the NSW Government aware that after only five days of surveying, the National Parks Association discovered a threatened species, the Yellow-bellied Sheathtail Bat in the Red Gum forests that Forests NSW had never recorded?
- (5) To what extent is the NSW Government committed to increasing threatened species surveys in the Red Gum forests?
- (6) Given that approval for selective logging techniques within Ramsar listed wetlands within the River Red Gum forests was given under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, why do current logging operations in these areas now concentrate on the use of clear patch fells?

- (7) Given that forest operations in the Riverina are under a temporary licence issued under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1992, which does not provide for the same standard of protection as the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995, what plans does the NSW Government have to update threatened species licensing to increase the protection of the Riverina?
- (8) Is the NSW Government aware that the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council found that due to the lack of flooding, sustainable yields of Red Gum would be reduced in Victoria by about 62 per cent if National Parks protection was not introduced?
- (9) Has the NSW Government conducted a similar assessment for yields of Red Gum in NSW?
- (10) If not, why not?
- (11) To what extent is the NSW Government committed to reducing logging volumes in the Central Murray region given that current volumes are based on yields calculated in 1985, which was before recent droughts and does not reflect increased mortality rates and reduced growth rates of forests in the region caused by the droughts?
- (12) To what extent has the NSW Government consulted with Custodial Traditional Owners of the River Red Gum forests over management of these forests and cultural sites contained within?
- (13) Given that the Riverina Bioregion is one of the most poorly reserved in the country with no National Parks occurring along the Murray River in NSW and that the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council has recommended the creation of seven new National Parks in Victoria, what plans does the NSW Government have for the creation of new National Parks in NSW River Red Gum forests, to bring the region in line with state and national reserve targets?
- (14) Will the NSW Government consult with Custodial Traditional Owners over the creation of new National Parks in the River Red Gum forests?

Answer—

- (1) Forests NSW has routinely assessed the environmental impact of timber harvesting operations over the past 10 years. Most recently, an assessment of Red Gum logging at industry level was made in 2007 in the Review of Environmental Factors conducted under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.
- (2) Forests NSW surveys for threatened species nominated by the Department of the Environment and Climate Change. The question of how many threatened species exist in the Red Gum forests should be addressed to my colleague, the Minister for Climate Change and Environment.
- (3) Forests NSW surveys for threatened species nominated by the Department of the Environment and Climate Change.
- (4) The Government notes the National Parks Association report that has found a threatened species in the State's Red Gum forests. Detection of these species in State forests that have been managed for timber supply and grazing for many generations confirms that Forests NSW forest management practices are environmentally sound.
- (5) This question should be addressed to my colleague, the Minister for Climate Change and Environment.
- (6) The Ramsar listing that was supported by both the NSW and Federal Governments listed timber harvesting as one of the many uses of the Ramsar site. Australian Group selection, a silvicultural technique that is used to promote regeneration following timber harvesting, is a harvesting technique that is used throughout NSW and is consistent with Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management.
- (7) This question should be addressed to my colleague, the Minister for Climate Change and Environment.
- (8) I am aware that the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) has assessed the level of reduction in timber yields in Red Gum forests within the Victorian General Management Zone attributable to reduced periodic flooding of the forests. The need for restoration of environmental water flows to these forests to historical levels is well recognised and is being managed under current inter-governmental arrangements, such as under The Living Murray program. The desired outcomes are achievable by means other than changing the tenure of the forests.
- (9) Forests NSW is currently conducting a routine review of the sustainable timber yield for Red Gum in NSW. This is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2008.
- (10) N/A.
- (11) Forests NSW has already committed to realigning annual yields with the modelled long term wood flow, where necessary. This commitment is made in the Ecological Sustainable Forest Management Plan for the Riverina Region.
- (12) Forests NSW consults widely with Aboriginal communities in relation to the identification and management of cultural heritage sites and places where timber harvesting and other management activities are planned. Aboriginal staff in the NSW DPI Aboriginal Liaison and Cultural Heritage Unit assist in this process.

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- (13) Questions in relation to the possible creation of new national parks should be addressed to my colleague, the Minister for Climate Change and Environment.
- (14) Questions in relation to the possible creation of new national parks should be addressed to my colleague, the Minister for Climate Change and Environment.
- 2431 CLIENT SERVICE OFFICERS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2432 EDGECLIFF RAILWAY STATION AND BUS INTERCHANGE—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2433 KINGSWAY FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT PTY LTD—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2434 FIXED SPEED CAMERAS—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- *2435 REVIEW OF TOURISM IN NSW REPORT—Mr Donald Page asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- (1) When was the John O'Neill AO 'Review of Tourism in NSW' report submitted to the Government or any of its Ministers or departments?
- (2) Did the office of the Minister for Tourism receive this report prior to Christmas 2007?
- (3) Has the original report been amended by the Premier's Department or the Premier's office in any way?
- (4) When will the report be released to the public?
- (5) (a) Will the Government release both the original report and the amended report?
(b) If not, why not?
- Answer—
- (1) to (5) This question should be referred to the Premier.
- 2436 ALLEGED ASSAULT—TORONTO HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2437 FAST SERVICE FROM NEWCASTLE—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2438 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2439 MATERNITY UNITS—TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2440 LEASING OF CROWN LAND—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—
- 2441 POTTSVILLE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2442 ACCELERATED SEWERAGE PROGRAM—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- *2443 RECYCLED WATER—SOUTH WEST—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- (1) What potential recycled water plans have been developed for the South West Growth Sector?
- (2) How many recycled water plants will be built in the South West Growth Sector?
- (3) What level of treatment will be applied?
- (4) What technologies will be employed?
- (5) When will the South West Sector Environmental Impact Assessment be finished?

Answer—

(1) to (5) As part of the Metropolitan Water Plan a major new recycling project, the Western Sydney Recycled Water Initiative, will provide recycled water via dual reticulation to all 230,000 new homes to be built in new suburbs in Sydney's north west and south west by about 2030, as well as for agriculture, industry and replicating natural river flows downstream from dams.

The Growth Centres Commission (GCC) was established to manage the release of land in the North West and South West Growth Centres. On behalf of the GCC, Sydney Water has prepared an integrated water, recycled water and wastewater strategy for the South West Growth Centre.

Construction of water related infrastructure will be in line with the GCC's land release timetable and will likely take place as each precinct is developed. It should be noted that due to the Water Industry Competition Act, Sydney Water may not be the service provider for all precincts within the South West Growth Centre.

The next stage of investigations includes an environmental assessment of the impacts of the proposed infrastructure, which is currently underway for the First Release Precincts of Oran Park and Turner Road. Environmental assessment of the remaining precincts will commence in 2008. Sydney Water will keep key stakeholders and the local community informed throughout the process and the community will be invited to respond to these assessments as they are released for public comment.

The preferred integrated servicing strategy for the South West Growth Centre is comprised of the following:

- Three sewage treatment plants located near Kemps Creek (north of Austral precinct), Lowes Creek (North West of Marylands Precinct) and South Creek (north of Kemps Creek precinct)
- Drinking water and recycled water systems providing dual reticulation for use throughout the South West Growth Centre
- Integration of the recycled water system into the network of surrounding recycling systems to enable the transfer of recycled water during low demand periods.

The preferred servicing strategy was chosen after extensive investigation and consultation with Sydney Water's key regulatory and local government stakeholders.

The strategy provides a basis for Sydney Water (on behalf of the GCC) to proceed with the completion of detailed studies and environmental approvals to provide water related services to the South West Growth Centre. Specific treatment processes and treatment levels will be assessed as part of this process. All drinking water, recycled water and wastewater will be treated in accordance with Australian standards.

Further information on the strategy is available on Sydney Water's website at www.sydneywater.com.au

2444 SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—ACCOUNTS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

*2445 BOTTLED OR SPRING WATER—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

How much money has been spent by the Department on bottled or spring water in each financial year from 2000-2001, through to 2007 up to 31 March 2008, inclusive?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The Auditor General audits the expenditure of agencies as provided in the Public Finance and Audit Act 1983. The audit process provides an independent assessment of agencies financial situation. Internal audit procedures are guided by information supplied by NSW Treasury which is publicly available at www.treasury.nsw.gov.au, in particular Treasury Policy and Guideline Papers TPP95a (Statement of Best Practice – Internal Control and Audit) and TPP95b (Internal Control and Assessment) and Treasurer's Directions 720.01-.03 (Internal Control and Internal Audit).

*2446 OVERSEAS TRAVEL—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) How much money has been spent on overseas travel by the Department for each financial year commencing 2000-2001 up to 2006-2007, inclusive?
- (2) What were each of the destinations visited, how many staff attended and what was the individual cost per trip?

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Answer—

I provide the following in response to your questions:

Travel by NSW public officials is governed by Premier's Department Circular 2005-03 Official Travel within Australia and Overseas.

Travel undertaken is always for official government business.

All overseas travel by agency staff is reported in the Department's annual report.

2447 TUBERCULOSIS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Health—

2448 F3 FREEWAY—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

*2449 TILLEGRA DAM—Mr George Souris asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

In respect of the proposed Tillegra Dam in the Dungog Shire:

- (1) Is it intended that water stored in Tillegra Dam be used for (a) residential supply (b) industrial and/or new industrial water supply, in the Hunter Water Board area?
- (2) Is it intended to supply by sale water for the Central Coast Water Utility and/or the Sydney Water area?
- (3) Will supply, in the case of either (1) or (2) above, be on a total cost recovery or commercial sale rates? How will the selling price be determined?

Answer—

- (1) Tillegra Dam will form part of Hunter Water's overall supply system.
- (2) In March this year, Hunter Water completed the final stage of a strategic pipeline linking the Hunter and Central Coast water supply systems.

There is no pipeline linking the Hunter and Sydney water supply systems.

- (3) The principles for calculating water prices in NSW are determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

2450 TAXIS—NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2451 TAXIS—NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2452 BIRTHS AT MONA VALE HOSPITAL—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Health—

2453 COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOLS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

2454 COMMUNITY COLLEGES – FUNDING AGREEMENTS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

2455 MELVILLE HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

2456 MIKE BAILEY—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

2457 CAPE HAWKE COMMUNITY PRIVATE HOSPITAL—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Health—

- 2458 REPRESENTATIONS—MR PHIL BAKER—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2459 XPT SERVICE TO DUBBO—Mr Russell Turner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2460 TRAFFIC SURROUNDING SCHOOLS—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2461 LYMPHOEDEMA TREATMENT—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2462 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Health—

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- 2463 SPRAY PAINT CANS—REGULATIONS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Youth, Minister for Volunteering—
- 2464 POLLUTION REDUCTION PROGRAM—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2465 NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2466 NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT—LICENCE CONDITIONS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2467 NORTH HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- *2468 PRUNING OF TREES NEAR POWER LINES—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- (1) What policy is followed by contractors employed to prune trees that are in close proximity to power lines?
 - (2) Will the Minister provide a copy of this policy?
 - (3) What measures are in place to ensure a minimum environmental impact is caused by those who undertake this work?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) Under section 48 of the Electricity Supply Act 1995, network operators are to ensure the trimming or removal of any trees that could destroy, damage or interfere with its electricity works or could make its electricity works become a potential cause of a bush fire or a potential risk to public safety.

Documents are publicly available from the relevant organisations.

- 2469 ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENCES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2470 YOUTH SUICIDE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2471 BROOKVALE OVAL—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 2472 MANLY WHARF—SALE OF COMMUTER TICKETS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

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- 2473 REFERENCES FOR HOUSING DEPARTMENT TENANTS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2474 PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN PORT STEPHENS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2475 PROPOSED HIGH SCHOOL AT MEDOWIE—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2476 OPERATING STANDARDS FOR SCHOOLS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2477 OPERATING STANDARDS FOR SCHOOLS—REVIEWS—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2478 HYDROTHERAPY POOL—ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2479 USE OF HYDROTHERAPY POOL—ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2480 FORESHORE RENTAL INCREASES—MIDDLE HARBOUR—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 2481 MACLEAN POLICE STATION—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2482 MACLEAN POLICE STATION—NIGHT SHIFT—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2483 GRAFTON POLICE STATION—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2484 GRAFTON POLICE STATION—NIGHT SHIFT—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2485 PRINCES HIGHWAY—NAROOMA—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- *2486 FISHERIES—RESTRICTION ON COMMUNICATION—Mr Andrew Constance asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- (1) Why was a ban placed on Ron Snape of Central Tilba in 2002 not allowing him to communicate with all but 3 NSW Fisheries officers?
 - (2) What legislation does such a ban fall under?
 - (3) Is Mr Snape allowed to enter fisheries offices around the State or is he restricted to one office in Eden?

Answer—

- (1) Mr Ronald Snape was a commercial fisherman for many years. The extent and nature of his communications with the then NSW Fisheries up to 2002 was such that the Director of NSW Fisheries requested Mr Snape to direct all future inquiries through three officers, being the District Fisheries Officer, the Manager, Commercial Fisheries and the Director of Fisheries Services.

I understand that such action, although rare, is taken from time to time to ensure the efficient operations of an agency. In the case of fisheries management, the need for such action rarely arises but I am satisfied that the action taken with regard to Mr Snape was appropriate.

- (2) Access was limited with consideration to the NSW Ombudsman's Guidelines' relating to dealing with difficult complainants.

(3) NSW DPI staff have attempted unsuccessfully to contact Mr Snape since he surrendered his commercial fishing business to discuss relaxing these arrangements.

*2487 JOHN MARCHEFF SOLAR PROJECT—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to the John Marcheff Solar Project at Macquarie Generation's Liddell power station and the Minister's response to Question 0435:

- (1) Given the Minister's response that "the first stage to be operational by the end of 2007 or soon thereafter", is the first stage of the solar project fully operational?
- (2) How much electricity is being generated by the "first stage" and how consistent is the generating capacity?
- (3) How many tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions are saved through the "first stage" of the project?
- (4) When will the next stage be completed?
- (5) Is the Minister aware of plans to use the "solar-derived steam technology" at any other power station?
- (6) Is the technology owned by an individual or corporation, and if so, who?

Answer—

Macquarie Generation has advised:

- (1) The first stage is expected to be operational by mid 2008.
- (2) 4,400 MWh per annum which is enough to power 500 homes. Output will vary with the sun's intensity.
- (3) 4,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases per year.
- (4) Any decision on the next stage will be subject to assessment of the first stage.
- (5) and (6) Ausra (formerly Solar Heat and Power) holds an international patent on the technology, and any use of that technology is a matter for the company.

*2488 NRET SCHEME—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to state-based renewable energy targets:

- (1) Has the Government now scrapped the NRET scheme?
- (2) If so, will the "Renewable Energy (New South Wales) Bill" be dropped from the Legislative Assembly "Notices of Motion"?

Answer—

- (1) and (2) Information on the NRET scheme is available on the Department of Water and Energy website at www.dwe.nsw.gov.au

*2489 COMPENSATION FOR GENERATORS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—

In relation to the "Garnaut Climate Change Review: Interim Report to the Commonwealth, State and Territory Government of Australia":

- (1) Is the Treasurer aware that the Review does not support "compensation" for the "non-traded sector" (i.e. production industries not exposed to international competition and producing only for internal markets), in particular "stationary energy" (i.e. production of electricity and other direct combustion of fossil fuels (other than in transport), p. 50)?
- (2) What is the Treasurer's response to Professor Ross Garnaut's published comments concerning electricity generators: "There is a good prospect of substantial capital devaluation for a range of their assets from introducing carbon pricing. . . . Some generators will be very substantially affected. They are very long-life assets worth billions of dollars."
- (3) Has Treasury assessed the impact of no compensation for Macquarie Generation, Delta Energy and Eraring Energy on their potential "lease" values, as a result of a national emissions trading scheme being introduced?
- (4) If so, what is the assessed impact on the potential "lease" values?

Answer—

I'm advised that the Commonwealth and States are united on the need for action to reduce carbon

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emissions and are working towards the establishment of a national emissions trading scheme.

The scheme is still being developed and so any impacts are not known at this stage.

The NSW Government does not want to see a negative economic impact on existing energy producers and trade exposed industries.

That's why the NSW Government will engage with the Commonwealth to ensure that while we are addressing the need to reduce carbon emissions through a national emissions trading scheme, we are not damaging Australia's economy.

- 2490 JENOLAN CAVES RESERVE TRUST—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2491 OMBUDSMAN RECOMMENDATIONS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- *2492 LONGWALL MINING—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- When will the independent inquiry into the impacts of longwall mining in the Southern Coalfield be available?
- Answer—
- The independent expert panel is expected to report to the Government by June 2008.
- 2493 TRANSIT OFFICERS—SOUTH COAST RAIL LINE—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2494 GARAGE DOOR FITTERS—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Youth, Minister for Volunteering—
- 2495 40 KM ZONE AT SOUTH NOWRA—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2496 ROADWORKS—JERVIS BAY ROAD—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2497 PENSIONER EXCURSION TICKET SCHEME—Mrs Shelley Hancock to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2498 SECURITY FENCES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2499 FALSIFICATION OF WAITING TIMES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2500 SPEEDING OFFENCES—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2501 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS ACCOMMODATION—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2502 KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- *2503 YASS FISHING INSPECTOR—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) Will the Minister confirm local reports that the fishing inspector currently located in Yass is being transferred to Tumut, without replacement?
- (2) If so, what measures has the Minister put in place to provide fisheries inspection coverage and protection of seeded stock in the Burrinjuck and Googong dams?

Answer—

- (1) The Yass and Tumut fisheries officer positions have been co-located at Tumut in order to establish a two officer team in the Yass-Tumut area. This ensures that there are no longer any one officer stations in the area, therefore increasing officer safety and at the same time enhancing operational effectiveness. There has been no loss of positions in the area.
- (2) These changes will not in any way diminish the protection provided to key waterways like those at Burrinjuck and Googong dams.

*2504 PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS—HORNSBY COUNCIL—Mrs Judy Hopwood asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

- (1) Is the Department of Local Government considering any public private partnership projects submitted by Hornsby Shire Council?
- (2) If so, what are they?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

The Department of Local Government is not considering any public private partnership projects received from Hornsby Shire Council.

N/A.

2505 DADHC ACCOMMODATION—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—

2506 HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—

2507 FIRE SAFETY PROGRAMS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

2508 STANWELL PARK VIADUCT—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2509 CRONULLA RAILWAY LINE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

*2510 PORT HACKING—CAULERPA TAXIFOLIA—Mr Malcolm Kerr asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) What areas of Port Hacking are still affected by caulerpa taxifolia?
- (2) What further plans are in place to eradicate caulerpa taxifolia from Port Hacking?

Answer—

- (1) Caulerpa abundance in Port Hacking has varied over time. Historically affected areas in Port Hacking include: Lilli Pilli Point, Costens Point, Red Jacks Point, Fishermans Bay, Simpsons Bay, Jibbon Head, Salmon Haul Bay, Gunnamatta Bay and Burraneer Bay.

Since the distribution of Caulerpa can change markedly over time, either expanding or contracting, Caulerpa will not necessarily be present in all these areas at any one time. Caulerpa may also occur in areas outside these locations.

- (2) A comprehensive eradication program for all these areas is not feasible using current technology.

I am advised that NSW DPI is instead focusing on targeted small-scale control work, vector management, community education and ongoing research.

2511 COMMUTER PARKING—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2512 CRONULLA RAILWAY LINE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2513 COMMUTER PARKING—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

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2514 OLD NORTHERN ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORK—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

2515 ADDITIONAL DRIVING LIGHTS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

*2516 ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Following the Commonwealth Government's welcome Statement of Apology to the Stolen Generation and national recognition of past but recent injustices toward Aboriginal families and children:

- (1) What action has the NSW Government taken to acknowledge our complicity in this awful history and provide some form of compensation to those who have suffered from racist policies?
- (2) What assessment has the NSW Government made of the numbers of Indigenous people in NSW affected who might be included in a compensation program?
- (3) What assessment has the NSW Government made of the Tasmanian Government's allocation of \$5 million to 84 victims and 22 of their children?
- (4) What action will the NSW Government take to acknowledge the awful impacts of these practices on Indigenous families in NSW?

Answer—

- (1) to (4) The New South Wales Government was the first in Australia to formally apologise to the estimated 100,000 Aboriginal people (in New South Wales) affected by the separation of generations of Aboriginal children from their parents, families and communities.

The NSW Government is committed to working in genuine partnership with Aboriginal people by involving Aboriginal organisations and communities in the development and delivery of programs and services for Aboriginal people.

Through the New South Wales State Plan, the State Government is committed to improving health, education and social outcomes for Aboriginal people. Two Ways Together: the NSW Aboriginal Affairs Plan 2003-2012 is the mechanism by which these outcomes will be delivered.

As well as the work being undertaken through the New South Wales State Plan, the State Government has established a number of programs to assist Aboriginal people reconnect with their communities and strengthen cultures. These include:

- The introduction of Aboriginal studies into the school curriculum.
- The establishment of a Family Records Unit within the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to support Aboriginal people to access records from the former Aborigines Welfare Board (now held by State Records NSW) which may assist their family history research.
- The establishment of a NSW Aboriginal Languages Research and Resource Centre to support Aboriginal communities seeking to preserve, revive or strengthen local languages.
- Dedicated resources under Families First and the Aboriginal Family Health Strategy to improve family support and health services.
- The establishment of the Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme (ATFRS) in 2004 to pay back money owed to Aboriginal people which had been paid into Trust Accounts operated by the Aborigines Welfare board prior to 1969. This Scheme is administered by the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

2517 KINGS CROSS YOUTH AT RISK PROJECT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—

2518 RESTRUCTURE OF THE HERITAGE OFFICE WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

2519 BASS AND FLINDERS—LEASE AGREEMENT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—

2520 COAL BUNKER WHARF—EOI PROCESS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—

2521 BELL FAMILY JETTY AT FRANCE BAY—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—

- 2522 ROZELLE BAY SUPERYACHT MARINA—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 2523 WORKPLACE DRUG TESTING—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 2524 DATA ON RECIDIVISM LEVELS—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- *2525 CARBON TAXATION—EXEMPTIONS—Mr Greg Piper asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—
- Does the Treasurer propose to underwrite or exempt any private operator from the obligation of carbon taxation for any period of time following any sale or lease of the power industry?
- Answer—
- I'm advised that the answer to this question is contained in the NSW Government Response to the Unsworth Consultative Reference Committee's Impact Statement, under recommendation 25. A copy of the Government's response can be found at <http://www.nsw.gov.au/energy/>
- 2526 MORISSET STATION—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2527 TWEED HEADS SOUTH SKATE PARK—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 2528 BLACK SPOT FUNDING—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2529 WOMMIN ROAD AND PHILLIP STREET INTERSECTION—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2530 HELICOPTER FLIGHTS—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 2531 COMMUTER PARKING—Mr Anthony Roberts to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2532 LICENSING PROPOSALS FOR OLDER DRIVERS - SUBMISSIONS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2533 MAINTENANCE WORK—PITTWATER—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- *2534 CAULERPA TAXIFOLIA—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- (1) Is caulerpa taxifolia an aquatic weed?
- (2) If yes, what measures are being taken to stop the sale of caulerpa taxifolia in New South Wales?
- Answer—
- (1) Yes.
- (2) Caulerpa taxifolia is listed as a Class 1 Noxious Marine Vegetation under the Fisheries Management Act 1994, which prohibits the sale or possession of such a weed.
- 2535 STUDENT TRANSPORT—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2536 MARTIN BRIDGE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

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*2537 PLANNING—MID NORTH COAST—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

- (1) In view of the substantial growth occurring in the Mid North Coast, particularly in the sections between Great Lakes Council and Coffs Harbour Council, is there any plan by the Minister, his Department or the Government to locate a regional planning office on the Mid North Coast?
- (2) If so, when?
- (3) If so, where?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) If not, does the Minister concede that the existing regional planning offices are remote to the development and growth areas, particularly on the Mid North Coast?
- (6) Does the Minister concede that the planning officers, particularly in the areas of Great Lakes Council and Greater Taree City Council are located in Newcastle, which is a separate geographical setup?
- (7) If so, what does the Minister intend to do in that regard?

Answer—

I am advised:

- (1) to (7) There are no current plans to locate an additional regional planning office on the Mid North Coast. The councils of the Mid North Coast are currently serviced by both the Northern Region and Hunter Region offices located in Grafton and Newcastle respectively. These offices provide services and support to councils on the Mid North Coast as well as to other councils on the Far North Coast and Lower Hunter which are experiencing similar growth pressures.

The Department is currently finalising a Mid North Coast Regional Strategy which will provide clear planning guidance to councils on the mid North Coast.

*2538 FUNDING OF CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) What is the Government's plan for the continued funding of catchment management authorities?
- (2) What guarantees exist for funding?
- (3) If no guarantees exist, what arrangements are there for funding?
- (4) If there are no guarantees or arrangements for funding, when will funding expire?
- (5) If funding expires, how will catchment management authorities be funded?
- (6) If catchment management authorities intend to levy rates, what formula has been set for the levy of such rates?

Answer—

- (1) to (6) This is a matter for the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment.

2539 MIDDLE DURAL PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

*2540 DANGEROUS DOGS—TYRA'S LAW—Mr Ray Williams asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

Since the amendment to the Companion Animals Act 1998 known as "Tyra's Law":

- (1) How many fines have been issued for owning an unsupervised dangerous dog which is in public?
- (2) How many dangerous or restricted animals have been destroyed?
- (3) Are fines being issued and/or dangerous dogs being destroyed each time a child is savagely mauled by a dangerous dog?
- (4) Are Councils compelled to issue fines or destroy dangerous dogs each time a child is mauled by a dangerous dog?
- (5) Have any Councils been punished for not issuing fines or destroying dangerous dogs each time a child is mauled by a dangerous dog?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) Information relating to fines issued by councils and the Police for offences under the Companion Animals Act 1998 is managed by the Office of State Revenue which falls outside my portfolio responsibilities.

- (2) Previous data provided by councils to the Department of Local Government does not differentiate between unclaimed or unwanted animals euthanased and those seized and destroyed because they were a dangerous or restricted dog. The new pound data collection form for 2008-09 has been modified to enable the collection of this data.
- (3) to (5) There is a range of robust enforcement options relating to dangerous and restricted dogs in the Companion Animals Act 1998. Authorised council officers and Police officers may take action based on the outcome of an investigation and have discretion when applying the range of enforcement and regulatory provisions available. The overarching principle of enforcement action is to enhance the safety of the community.
- 2541 BOUNDARY ROAD AND OLD PITT TOWN ROAD INTERSECTION—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

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- 2542 BREAK, ENTER AND STEAL OFFENCES—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- *2543 REPRESENTATIONS—MR GRAHAM WILSON—Mr Greg Aplin asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- When will a response be sent to correspondence dated 19 April 2007 on behalf of Mr Graham Wilson of Howlong, relating to compensation for loss of carry-over water allocation in the Murray Valley, that was redirected in July 2007 from the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water to the Minister for Primary Industries?
- Answer—
- I am advised that the NSW Rural Assistance Authority has responded to Mr Graham Wilson of Howlong on this issue and a copy has been sent to your office for information.
- 2544 TYNAN ROAD CROSSING—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2545 CONSTRUCTION OF NEW POLICE STATION AT MANLY—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- *2546 SEAFORTH TAFE SITE—Mr Mike Baird asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- Does the Minister support the motion passed by the Labor Party's Northern Beaches branches to retain the Seaforth TAFE site for education purposes?
- Answer—
- I am advised that the Department of Education and Training has established that the Seaforth site is no longer viable as an educational facility.
- Landcom has been working on a proposal that aims to maximise benefits for the local community.
- I recently met with various stakeholders including the local council.
- I asked the council to resolve its position on Seaforth TAFE by the end of April. Both the Mayor and yourself, being the local MP, agreed that this was reasonable.
- 2547 WIRREANDA PUBLIC SCHOOL—DEMOUNTABLES—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2548 PATIENTS FROM TOMAREE PENINSULA—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Health—

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*2549 MINISTERIAL COUNCIL ON ENERGY—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to the "Economic Regulatory Package" detailed in the December "Ministerial Council on Energy Communiqué":

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the note made in the latest Communiqué from the Ministerial Council on Energy in December 2007: "The MCE was pleased to note that amendments to the National Electricity Law have passed through the South Australian Parliament, enabling the transfer of the economic regulation of electricity distribution to the national framework from 1 January 2008. This is a significant milestone in energy market reform. The NSW and ACT distribution reset processes are set to commence early next year under the new governance arrangements" (p. 2)?
- (2) Will the "Economic Regulatory Package" require a Bill to be introduced into New South Wales Parliament?
- (3) If so, when will the Bill be introduced?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) No.
- (3) Not applicable. Refer to answer for (2) above.

*2550 SOLAR ENERGY—SYDNEY AIRPORT—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to solar energy partnerships:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the South Australian Government recently partnered with Adelaide Airport Ltd and BP Solar to supply and install a 114 kilowatt solar energy system on the roof of Adelaide Airport?
- (2) Has the NSW Government made any assessment of the potential to install solar energy systems on any NSW buildings with large roof areas?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The NSW Government has demonstrated its commitment to further development of large solar systems by undertaking the installation of a solar PV system on the roof of NSW Parliament House.

*2551 FEED-IN TARIFFS AND REBATES—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

In relation to potential models for feed-in tariffs and the Minister's responses to Questions 1268, 1888 and 2127:

- (1) Has the Minister assessed the potential impact of introducing a feed-in tariff that is a fixed price per kilowatt hour (German model) against market-driven Renewable Energy Credits (US Renewable Portfolio Standards model)?
- (2) If so, from the Minister's assessments which model provides the strongest long-term incentive to customers to install distributed solar systems?
- (3) Through the COAG-led process, will the Minister be supporting the introduction of a feed-in tariff that is a fixed price per kilowatt hour or market-driven Renewable Energy Credits?

Answer—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Jurisdictional feed-in tariffs in Australia are limited to only support small consumers who install solar photovoltaic power systems. This mechanism provides a limited incentive for customers to install solar power systems as the high capital cost is the major impediment. Separate mechanisms which assist with the cost of installation are a Commonwealth rebate program and Renewable Energy Certificates.
- (3) The NSW Government recognises the benefits of national approaches where appropriate, and is currently working with the Commonwealth Government and other jurisdictions to implement a nationally consistent feed-in tariff as well as an expanded Mandatory Renewable Energy Target.

- 2552 ENDANGERED WILDLIFE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- *2553 BELANGLO STATE FOREST—HUNTING ADVERTISEMENTS—Ms Pru Goward asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- (1) In accordance with the Game and Feral Animal Control Regulation 2004, were advertisements regarding proposed declaration of Belanglo State Forest as hunting land placed in:
 - (a) a newspaper circulating through the State, and
 - (b) a newspaper circulating in the district in which the land of the proposed declaration is situated?
 - (2) If so, in which publications were these advertisements placed?
 - (3) What date did the advertisements run?
- Answer—
- (1) (a) Yes.
 - (b) Yes.
 - (2) In relation to:
 - (1) (a) The Land.
 - (1) (b) The Southern Highland News.
 - (3) In relation to:
 - (1) (a) Thursday 6 March 2008.
 - (1) (b) Monday 10 March 2008.
- 2554 TRADING HOURS FOR RETAIL OUTLETS IN GOULBURN—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2555 WATER PIPELINE TENDER—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2556 BLUESCOPE STEEL GREENHOUSE GAS CREDITS—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2557 CORRECTIVE SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2558 DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING TENANTS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2559 UNLAWFUL DIVERSION OF WATER—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2560 COLLATERAL DEBT OBLIGATIONS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 2561 STUDENT TRANSPORT—WAKEHURST—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2562 CLINICAL SERVICES PLAN—NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITALS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2563 OUTSTANDING MAINTENANCE—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2564 AGE OF BUSES—BROOKVALE DEPOT—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

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- 2565 STUDENT TRANSPORT—FOREST HIGH SCHOOL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2566 READING RECOVERY PROGRAMS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2567 MAINTENANCE WORK AND CAPITAL WORKS—WAKEHURST SCHOOLS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2568 PUBLIC HOUSING MAINTENANCE—WAKEHURST—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2569 MAINTENANCE OF AMBULANCE STATIONS—NORTHERN BEACHES—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2570 STUART NEAL AND SHARON GUEST—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2571 PUBLIC HOUSING IN YOUNG—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2572 PURCHASE OF CROWN LAND—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—
- 2573 NUTRITION OF HOSPITAL PATIENTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2574 ROAD CONVERTED TO MALL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2575 HAEMODIALYSIS UNIT—HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2576 POLICE RECRUITS—WARATAH COMMAND—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- *2577 STAFF MOBILITY RATES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea asked the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—
- (1) Which three ministerial offices had the highest staff mobility rates for the period 24 March 2007 to 31 March 2007?
 - (2) What were the mobility rates for the three relevant offices?
- Answer—
- The Department of Premier and Cabinet employs staff temporarily, pursuant to the Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002, for assignment to Ministers' offices. Budget estimates of average staffing for Ministers' offices have not changed in recent years.
- In the period 24 March to 31 March 2007, the staff mobility rate for the Office of the Hon C M Tebbutt MP was 20 per cent, for the Office of the Hon C A Burton MP the rate was 11 per cent, and for the Office of the Hon M Costa MLC the rate was 10 per cent.
- 2578 MILITARY ROAD WORKING GROUP—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2579 TAFE SITE AT BELROSE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2580 EMPLOYEE NUMBERS OUTSIDE NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

- 2581 NORTH WEST RAIL LINK EXPENDITURE—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2582 GRAFFITI TASKFORCE—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2583 WATER FIX PROGRAM—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2584 NORTH SHORE LINE TRACKWORK—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- *2585 EMPLOYEE NUMBERS OUTSIDE NEW SOUTH WALES—Mr Barry O'Farrell asked the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—
- (1) How many employees within your department's work outside New South Wales borders?
 - (2) What is the total annual cost of these employees?
- Answer—
- Many Departmental officers based in New South Wales are required to work outside New South Wales borders as part of their normal duties. For example, officers are often required to represent the State at inter-governmental meetings in other capital cities on one or more days during the year, while spending the rest of their time in New South Wales.
- The number of officers to whom this would apply, and the associated cost of working outside of New South Wales, is not separately recorded.
- 2586 WATER RESTRICTION FINES—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2587 GRAFFITI CLEANING COSTS—Mr Barry O'Farrell to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2588 REQUEST FOR POLICE PRESENCE—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2589 TUTOR DEEMED UNSUITABLE—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2590 SEWERAGE TREATMENT AT BARRINGBAR-MOONBALL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2591 NSW DISABILITY PERMITS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—
- 2592 FTE NURSES AT TWEED HOSPITAL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2593 SYDNEY WATER—VACANT POSITIONS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- *2594 BUSINESS OPERATIONS MANAGER—DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENERGY—Mr Michael Richardson asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- (1) Given the Department of Water and Energy is currently seeking a Business Operations Manager:
 - (a) Who was the previous occupant of this position?
 - (b) On what date did he or she leave?
 - (c) Why did he or she leave?
 - (d) Who has been filling this role in the meantime?
 - (2) Which Minister, the Minister for Energy or the Minister for Water, is responsible for decisions taken by the Business Operations Manager at the Department of Water and Energy?

Answer—

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(1) and (2) The position is located in the Water Management Division of the Department of Water and Energy and the previous occupant resigned from the former Department of Natural Resources in February 2007.

*2595 SPEED CAMERA REVENUE—Mr Anthony Roberts asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—

By each individual speed camera installed in New South Wales, how much revenue and how many fines were raised and incurred for the years:

- (a) 1999-2000;
- (b) 2002-2001;
- (c) 2001-2002;
- (d) 2002-2003;
- (e) 2003-2004;
- (f) 2004-2005;
- (g) 2005-2006;
- (h) 2006-2007;
- (i) 2007 31 March 2008 inclusive?

Answer—

I'm advised:

The production of accurate figures broken down by individual speed cameras installed in New South Wales for the requested years would require considerable time and an unjustifiable diversion of resources away from the core responsibilities of the Office of State Revenue.

2596 SINGLETON FIRE STATION—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

*2597 TREE PRUNING POLICY—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

- (1) What policy is followed by contractors employed to prune trees that are in close proximity to powerlines in the Pittwater electorate?
- (2) Will the Minister provide a copy of this policy?
- (3) What measures are in place to ensure minimum environmental impact is caused by those who undertake this work?

Answer—

- (1) to (3) Under section 48 of the Electricity Supply Act 1995, network operators are to ensure the trimming or removal of any trees that could destroy, damage or interfere with its electricity works or could make its electricity works become a potential cause of a bush fire or a potential risk to public safety.

Documents are publicly available from the relevant organisations.

2598 SCHOOLS FUNDED FOR WATER SAVING DEVICES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

2599 SCHOOL FUNDING FOR WATER SAVING DEVICES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—

2600 MEDICARE FUNDING FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE DEPARTMENTS—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Health—

2601 THE TOWRANG STOCKADE RESERVE TRUST—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

*2602 OLD BAR BEACH COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTRE INC—REPRESENTATIONS—Mr John Turner asked the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—

When will the Premier reply to my initial letter to him dated 14 August 2007 (your ref: AA07/20612-SPB) and my follow up letters dated 8 November 2007 and 14 January 2008 on behalf of residents of Old Bar Beach Community Technology Centre Inc regarding funding assistance for rent for their centre?

Answer—

The honourable member's correspondence was answered on behalf of the Premier on 22 February 2008 by Mr A S Smith, Deputy Director General, State Administration Services, Department of Premier and Cabinet.

*2603 REPRESENTATIONS—RESIDENTS OF GUNJULA DRIVE—Mr John Turner asked the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—

When will the Treasurer reply to my letter to him dated 11 January 2008 on behalf of residents of Gunjula Drive concerning damage that occurred to their neighbourhood during the period 8-11 June 2007?

Answer—

I'm advised:

A letter in reply has been sent.

2604 WORKERS COMPENSATION SPECIALISED INSURANCE SCHEME LICENCES—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

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2605 TOW TRUCK AUTHORITY—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

2606 RETAIL COMPETITION IN RURAL NSW—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

2607 BUS SERVICES—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2608 CLEANER GOVERNMENT FLEET—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

2609 DOCS CASEWORKER STAFFING—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—

2610 SPEECH THERAPIST AT COWRA—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Health—

2611 SALE OF ILLABO SCHOOL RESIDENCE—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

2612 HAEMODIALYSIS BED NUMBERS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—

2613 HAEMODIALYSIS WAITING LISTS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—

2614 PUBLIC LIGHTING—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

2615 SOLAR IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

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- 2616 TOLKIEN II REPORT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2617 NOISY VEHICLES—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2618 FREE RANGE PIGS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2619 COST ASSESSMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE SUPREME COURT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 2620 REFERRAL OF MATTERS TO THE LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSIONER—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2621 BELROSE SPACE CORRIDOR—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2622 TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL'S EXPOSURE TO THE SUBPRIME MORTGAGE MARKET—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 2623 SUBSIDISED SCHOOL GROUP TRAVEL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2624 MAINTENANCE OF STATE-OWNED ROADS—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2625 PLANNING STAFF—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2626 VACANT POSITIONS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2627 WARRAGAMBA DAM AUXILIARY SPILLWAY PROJECT—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- *2628 PROMOTION OF NATURE TOURISM—PITTWATER ELECTORATE—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—

Are there any campaigns to promote nature tourism in the Pittwater electorate during 2008?

Answer—

Pittwater, as part of the Northern Beaches, is a recognised Sydney tourism precinct and a key visitor experience for visitors to the city.

Promotion of the region is focussed on the natural attributes of the area, including beaches, waterways and bushland, and related recreational activities.

Pittwater is promoted through the main Sydney seasonal campaigns conducted by Tourism NSW. In 2004, Tourism NSW launched a major new brand for Sydney "There's no place in the world like Sydney". Since then, over \$13.6 million of Government and industry funding has been invested in this campaign.

The Northern Beaches is featured in Tourism NSW's consumer publications and on its consumer website www.visitnsw.com. The website encourages visitors to the Northern Beaches to enjoy the area's natural beauty via activities such as surfing, sailing, kayaking, river cruises, seaplane flights, and visits to Waratah Park Earth Sanctuary and organised day tours.

- 2629 NARRABEEN AMBULANCE STATION—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Health—

- 2630 HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICERS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2631 DRAFT RURAL RESIDENTIAL LAND RELEASE STRATEGY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

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- 2632 TRAVELLING TIMES TO THE SYDNEY CBD—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2633 PROPOSED TOMAGO INDUSTRIAL SITE RAIL CORRIDOR—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2634 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMS AT SOLDIERS POINT PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2635 PRESENTATION OF JUNE 2007 FLOOD AND STORM MEDALLIONS—Mr Craig Baumann to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2636 RENEWAL OF BOAT LICENCES—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 2637 YAMBA POLICE STATION—NIGHT SHIFT—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2638 CORAKI POLICE STATION—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2639 CORAKI POLICE STATION—NIGHT SHIFT—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2640 CASINO POLICE STATION—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2641 CASINO POLICE STATION—NIGHT SHIFT—Mr Steve Cansdell to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2642 FLUORIDATION—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2643 EXERCISE CATALYST 2008—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2644 SMART METERS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2645 SCHOOL MAINTENANCE—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2646 THREATENED SPECIES PROTECTION—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2647 LAKE BURRAGORANG WATER SUPPLY—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

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- 2648 VEGETATION MONITORING—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2649 PUBLIC HOUSING—WINDMILL STREET, MILLERS POINT—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2650 STATE TRANSIT "RUNAWAYS"—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2651 PRIMO INVESTIGATION—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2652 STATE WARDS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2653 BELLS LINE OF ROAD—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2654 AIR AMBULANCE COSTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2655 INQUIRY FOR OUT OF HOME CARE OF CHILDREN—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2656 ALCOHOL RELATED BREACHES—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2657 DAME EDITH FACILITY—CONCORD HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2658 LOCK DOWN POLICY—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2659 MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC HOUSING—CRONULLA—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2660 WATER SAVING DEVICES—CRONULLA SCHOOLS—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2661 EXPRESS TRAINS—CRONULLA RAILWAY LINE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2662 PROBATION OFFICES—SUTHERLAND SHIRE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- *2663 SINGLE SUPPLEMENT—Ms Clover Moore asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- With respect to the recent Sydney Morning Herald article "Singled Out" (29 March 2008, Travel Section), in which Conrad Walters argued that the 'single supplement' makes it difficult for many people to travel on their own:
- (1) What is the Government's assessment of the extra costs involved when people travel alone?
 - (2) What action has the Government taken to encourage the tourism industry to accommodate single travellers?
 - (3) What assessment has the Government made of the impact of the 'single supplement' on older people and their ability to travel alone?
 - (4) What strategies can the Government suggest for people travelling alone to help reduce their costs, particularly for older people?
- Answer—
- This is a matter of industry economics and not within the jurisdiction of the NSW Government.
- 2664 GENETICALLY MODIFIED (GM) CANOLA—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

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- 2665 HICKSON ROAD CAR ENTHUSIASTS—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—
- 2666 CHATSWOOD TO EPPING RAIL LINE—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2667 POPULATION GROWTH FOR SYDNEY—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—
- 2668 CHATSWOOD TO EPPING RAIL LINE—EMERGENCY PLANS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2669 IPART RECOMMENDATIONS—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 2670 PLATFORM AWNINGS—MORISSET—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2671 MORISSET STATION—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2672 PENALTIES FOR CHILD HOMICIDE AND INJURY—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2673 MAINTENANCE OF STATE-OWNED ROADS IN THE TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2674 DRIVERS OVER 85—TWEED ELECTORATE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2675 SUPPLY OF IMIZOL CATTLE TICK FEVER VACCINATION—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2676 HOSPITAL FOOD SERVICES—Mrs Jillian Skinner to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2677 RAIL TUNNEL ARDGLLEN—Mr George Souris to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2678 FUNDING FOR MAINTENANCE—PITTWATER SCHOOLS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2679 WAKEHURST PARKWAY—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- *2680 MAJOR TOURISM EVENTS—Mr Rob Stokes asked the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
What major tourism events has Sydney lost to Melbourne in the last decade?
Answer—
Tourism NSW does not have this information.
This question should be directed to the Premier.
- 2681 TEACHERS WORKER'S COMPENSATION CLAIMS—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2682 HOSPITAL TV RECEPTION—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2683 SAVE THE BRUMBIES INC—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

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*2684 CHANGES TO GARBAGE SERVICES—Mr Andrew Stoner asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—

In relation to the rates charged for garbage services under the Local Government Act:

- (1) Is it acceptable for a Council to charge a resident a continuing fee for the 'provision' of a waste management depot, as well as an access fee when the facility is used, even if the resident never uses the facility?
- (2) If so, is it acceptable that charges for the capital component of the provision of such a facility be levied on a continuing rather than a finite basis?
- (3) If so, on what basis should such charges be apportioned to individual residents e.g. on the basis of extent of use?

Answer—

I provide the following details in response to your questions:

- (1) Under section 496(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, a council must make and levy an annual charge for the provision of domestic waste management services for each parcel of rateable land for which the service is available.

Under section 501(1) of the Act, a council may make an annual charge for waste management services (other than domestic waste management services) provided, or proposed to be provided, on an annual basis by the council.

Under section 608(1), a council may charge and recover an approved fee for any service it provides, other than a service provided, or proposed to be provided, on an annual basis for which it is authorised or required to make an annual charge under section 496 or 501.

- (2) In accordance with section 539 of the Act, Councils are not restricted in the factors they can have regard to when determining a charge.
- (3) This is a matter of individual council policy.

2685 POKER MACHINE REVENUE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation—

2686 UNANSWERED CORRESPONDENCE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

2687 MULLER PARK RESERVE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—

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2688 SCHOOL UNIFORMS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

2689 REVESBY COMMUTER PARKING—Mr Alan Ashton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2690 REVESBY TURNBACK FACILITY—Mr Alan Ashton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

2691 RTA'S BICYCLE MASTERPLAN 2010—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

2692 BEAR COTTAGE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Health—

2693 MANLY JETCAT SERVICES—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

- 2694 HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION—MANLY—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2695 CYCLEWAYS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2696 141 BUS SERVICE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2697 BALGOWLAH PIONEER CLUBHOUSE—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2698 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2699 NSW MARITIME RENTS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 2700 CHATSWOOD-EPPING RAIL LINE OPENING—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2701 CHATSWOOD-EPPING RAIL LINE DELAY—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2702 EPPING ROAD BUS SERVICES—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2703 272 BUS SERVICE—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2704 272 BUS SERVICE—APRIL 2007—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2705 273 BUS SERVICE—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2706 273 BUS SERVICE—APRIL 2007—Ms Gladys Berejiklian to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2707 ROADS FUNDING—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- *2708 MINISTERIAL CARS—Mr Peter Debnam asked the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—

In relation to ministerial entitlements:

- (1) What is the make, model and production year of each Government minister's ministerial vehicle?
- (2) Which of the following fuel types best describes the fuel type used in each minister's ministerial vehicle (list of fuel types from "Table 5" of the "Fleet Improvement Plan 2007")?
 - (a) "Petrol";
 - (b) "E10 petrol";
 - (c) "Auto diesel";
 - (d) "LPG";
 - (e) "Ethanol";
 - (f) "Bio-diesel";
 - (g) "CNG";
 - (h) "Other"?

Answer—

The Department of Premier and Cabinet provides transport services for the Premier, Ministers and nominated office holders, including the Governor, Leader of the Opposition, the Presiding Officers and three former office holders.

Cars leased by the Department of Premier and Cabinet are equipped with fuel cards in accordance with the NSW Motor Vehicle Policy, including cards that may be used to purchase E10 blends.

The Department encourages all drivers of Department cars, including Ministers and Ministers' drivers, to

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- use E10 blends where this is practicable, available and cost effective.
- 2709 GAS PEAKING CAPACITY—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2710 FARMER EXIT ASSISTANCE—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2711 RAINWATER TANK SUBSIDIES—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2712 OFFICE REFURBISHMENT—GREEN STAR RATING—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—
- 2713 MARULAN TOWNSHIP—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2714 MEDWAY DEVELOPMENT—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2715 COMPENSATION TO MARULAN LANDOWNERS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2716 FUTURE OF MINING IN THE MARULAN REGION—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2717 ZONING BY GOULBURN MULWAREE COUNCIL—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2718 ZONING OF PENROSE MINING OPERATIONS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2719 ZONING FOR EXTRACTIVE OPERATIONS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2720 CLASSIFICATION OF EXTRACTIVE AND MINING OPERATIONS—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2721 SYDNEY CANBERRA CORRIDOR—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2722 COURT COSTS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2723 HOSPITAL FOOD—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2724 COWRA HOSPITAL—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2725 CONFUSED AND DISTURBED ELDERLY—LONG JETTY—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2726 TUBERCULOSIS—HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2727 HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS—UPPER NORTH SHORE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2728 TRANSFER SYSTEM FOR TEACHERS—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2729 ROADSIDE MAINTENANCE—CRONULLA—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

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- 2730 WAGGA WAGGA BASE HOSPITAL CHILDREN'S WARD—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2731 SYDNEY TO MELBOURNE RAIL LINE UPGRADE—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2732 PARRAMATTA TO EPPING RAIL LINK—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2733 APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL BUSES—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2734 REPOSSESSION OR SEIZURE OF MOTOR VEHICLES—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Youth, Minister for Volunteering—
- 2735 ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2736 PRISONER REHABILITATION—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2737 DRUG TREATMENT—Ms Clover Moore to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2738 SYDNEY DESALINATION PLANT—CONSTRUCTION—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2739 SYDNEY DESALINATION PLANT—OPERATION—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2740 SYDNEY DESALINATION PLANT—EXCESS WATER—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2741 DECISION-MAKING AT PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL—Mr Robert Oakeshott to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 2742 GLASSHOUSE PROJECT FUNDING—Mr Robert Oakeshott to ask the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—
- 2743 SPORTING BODIES LOANS—Mr Robert Oakeshott to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts representing the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter—
- 2744 ADMINISTRATORS TERM—Mr Robert Oakeshott to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 2745 PATIENT TRANSFER BUDGET—Mr Robert Oakeshott to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2746 RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION FORMULA—Mr Robert Oakeshott to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2747 PORT MACQUARIE BASE HOSPITAL PATIENT TREATMENT COSTS—Mr Robert Oakeshott to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2748 KOOMPAHTOO LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2749 REGISTRATION OF MODIFIED VEHICLE—Mr Greg Piper to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2750 CROSS BORDER CO-OPERATION MEETINGS—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—
- 2751 CATTLE TICK FEVER—TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—

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- 2752 TICK FEVER INQUIRY—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2753 SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2754 SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2755 SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—INTERNAL CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2756 ACCELERATED SEWERAGE PROGRAM—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2757 SYDNEY CATCHMENT SPECIAL AREAS—NATIVE TITLE CLAIMS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2758 SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—BORROWINGS—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2759 DELAYS IN OBTAINING DEATH CERTIFICATES—Mr Greg Smith to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2760 BURDEKIN PARK SINGLETON—Mr George Souris to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2761 AIR COOLING PROGRAM—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2762 PATIENTS AT ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2763 CURRAWONG DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2764 SCHOOL BUS INTERCHANGE—SOUTH WEST ROCKS ROAD—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2765 ROAD BRIDGES OVER THE NORTH COAST RAIL LINE—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2766 TUNCURRY AMBULANCE SERVICE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2767 WENTWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - PETITION—Mr John Williams to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2768 OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL IN KELLYVILLE—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

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- 2769 GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR LAWN BOWLS—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- 2770 ROOF REPAIRS—WESTERN SYDNEY—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2771 MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 2772 PATHOLOGY SERVICES—ALBURY—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2773 SPIT-MILITARY ROAD WORKING GROUP—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2774 SPIT-MILITARY ROAD WORKING GROUP—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2775 LIFETIME SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE CLAIMS—Mr Mike Baird to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, and Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2776 JESSIE NEAL—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—
- 2777 JESSIE NEAL—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2778 JESSIE NEAL—PLACEMENT OF—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—
- 2779 JESSIE NEAL—PLACEMENT OF—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2780 JESSIE NEAL—TEMPORARY CARE AGREEMENT—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—
- 2781 JESSIE NEAL—TEMPORARY CARE AGREEMENT—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2782 JESSIE NEAL—COSTS AND DIFFICULTIES WITH PLACEMENT—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—
- 2783 JESSIE NEAL—COSTS AND DIFFICULTIES WITH PLACEMENT—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2784 NON-INVESTIGATION BY POLICE—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2785 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS—EUROBODALLA SHIRE—Mr Andrew Constance to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2786 CARBON GEOSEQUESTRATION IN NSW WATERS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2787 OCEAN OUTFALLS—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water—
- 2788 DERELICT BUILDING—NORTH BONDI—Mr Peter Debnam to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2789 COFFS HARBOUR HEALTH CAMPUS—Mr Andrew Fraser to ask the Minister for Health—

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- 2790 FRUIT FLY OUTBREAKS AND PREVENTION—Mr Andrew Fraser to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2791 TICK OUTBREAK AND PREVENTION—Mr Andrew Fraser to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2792 DETAILS OF GRANT TO COROWA FEEDLOT—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2793 COMPOSTING AND USE OF AQUATIC WEED—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2794 REFURBISHMENT OF CHILDREN'S WARD AT BOWRAL AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2795 AWARENESS OF UNSAFE DRUG USE AMONG YOUNG WOMEN—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2796 HAIRDRESSING COURSES IN TAFE REGIONAL COLLEGES—Ms Pru Goward to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2797 WORKERS COMPENSATION PAYMENTS—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2798 BETTER PRACTICE REVIEW – CANADA BAY COUNCIL—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 2799 SCHOOL MAINTENANCE—CENTRAL COAST—Mr Chris Hartcher to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2800 ZONING OF RURAL AREA IN GOULBURN-MULWAREE—Mr Brad Hazzard to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- 2801 MUNCHAUSEN SYNDROME BY PROXY CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2802 DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—
- 2803 FIREARMS VIOLATIONS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2804 SOUND BARRIERS—F3—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2805 PUBLIC HOUSING MAINTENANCE—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2806 RENAL PHYSICIAN – HORNSBY HOSPITAL—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2807 "CLOSE THE GAP"—Ms Sonia Hornery to ask the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)—
- 2808 FUNDING FOR SCHOOL MAINTENANCE—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

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- 2809 ALCOHOL RELATED BREACHES—Mr Malcolm Kerr to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2810 WORDING ON IPTAAS APPLICATION FORM—Mr Daryl Maguire to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2811 ROAD USAGE—BAULKHAM HILLS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2812 ROAD USAGE—BAULKHAM HILLS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2813 ROAD USAGE—BAULKHAM HILLS—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2814 PATRONAGE—NORTH WEST BUS TRANSITWAY—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—
- 2815 CONSTRUCTION OF WEST FACING RAMP—M2 MOTORWAY—Mr Wayne Merton to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2816 ADDITIONAL DISABILITY FACILITIES—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—
- 2817 PERMISSION TO LODGE—REQUIREMENT—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways—
- 2818 ASSISTANCE TO MEN'S SHEDS PROJECTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2819 PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE—Mr Donald Page to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- 2820 NSW-QUEENSLAND CROSS BORDER TASK FORCE—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—
- 2821 CATTLE TICK FEVER—TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- 2822 NOT FOR PROFIT CHILDCARE FACILITIES—TWEED—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- 2823 RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION—NELSON PARADE, HUNTERS HILL—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- 2824 RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION—NELSON PARADE, HUNTERS HILL—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2825 POLICE OFFICER ACTIONS FOR COMPENSATION—Mr Greg Smith to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2826 GUIDELINES FOR CLAIMS BY POLICE OFFICERS—Mr Greg Smith to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- 2827 RENAL DIALYSIS UNIT AT MONA VALE HOSPITAL—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2828 APPLICATIONS FOR BIRTH, DEATH AND MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra representing the Attorney General, and Minister for Justice—
- 2829 PROTECTION OF LOW-LYING COASTAL REGIONS—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

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- 2830 PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS—KEMPSEY—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Housing, Minister for Tourism—
- 2831 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT—KEMPSEY DISTRICT HOSPITAL—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2832 RENAL DIALYSIS SERVICES—MID NORTH COAST—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2833 EQUIPMENT FOR KEMPSEY DISTRICT HOSPITAL—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Health—
- 2834 MAINTENANCE WORK—TINONEE PUBLIC SCHOOL—Mr John Turner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- 2835 REPAINTING OF MARTIN BRIDGE, TAREE—Mr John Turner to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

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- 2836 READYMIX REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE – ROOTY HILL—Mr Richard Amery to ask the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—
- (1) In light of the takeover of the Rinker Company by the Mexican concrete firm, Cemex, what is the present position with the application for the Readymix Regional Distribution Centre at Rooty Hill?
 - (2) Has the Australian branch of Cemex advised the Department of Planning of any changes to the original development lodged by Rinker?
 - (3) If so, what are these changes?
- 2837 YARRAWONGA-MULWALA BRIDGE—Mr Greg Aplin to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- (1) Further to the response to Question 1741 and a meeting with Corowa Shire Council representatives in March, has the Minister been advised that the Victorian Minister for Roads has confirmed a commitment to deliver a new bridge linking Yarrowonga and Mulwala by 2020?
 - (2) What progress has been made on commissioning a Route Selection Study to identify a preferred option?
 - (3) Will funding be allocated in the next financial year to facilitate this assessment process?
 - (4) When will a funding timeline be determined?
- 2838 MUDGEES CSC—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Community Services—
- (1) With respect to the Minister's announcement on 2 May 2008 regarding five additional caseworker positions at the Mudgee CSC, how many caseworker positions are now allocated to the Mudgee CSC?
 - (2) How many of these positions are full time positions?
 - (3) How many of these positions were actually filled as of 6 May 2008?
- 2839 YOUNG HOSPITAL MAMMOGRAM X-RAYS—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Health—
- (1) As of 6 May 2008, how long has the mammogram x-ray machine at Young District Hospital been unserviceable?
 - (2) Is this machine scheduled to be either (a) repaired or (b) replaced?
 - (3) When will this repair or replacement be completed?
 - (4) If the x-ray machine is not being repaired or replaced what actions have you taken to ensure that Young District residents requiring mammograms are able to access this service?
 - (5) What was the average monthly usage of this service when the machine was operational?

- 2840 HARNES RACING IN THE RIVERINA—Ms Katrina Hodgkinson to ask the Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation—
- (1) On what date will the decision as to the location of the new 'Racing Supercentre' in the Riverina be announced by Harness Racing NSW?
 - (2) Will the NSW Government provide funding to assist with the construction of this venue?
- 2841 SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Police, Minister for the Illawarra—
- Will any police currently employed in the Kuring-gai Local Area Command be involved in the new policy regarding the establishment of 30 NSW special police officers to be proactive in big events (to target alcohol-related crimes)?
- 2842 HORNSBY HOSPITAL MENTAL HEALTH INTENSIVE CARE UNIT—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Minister for Health—
- What timeframe is involved with the occupancy of all the 12 beds at Hornsby Hospital Mental Health Intensive Care Unit (MHICU)?
- 2843 DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS—Mrs Judy Hopwood to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—
- (1) (a) How many demountable classrooms are there in schools in the Hornsby electorate?
(b) Which schools and how many in each?
 - (2) With regard to each school, how old are the demountables?
 - (3) How many demountable classrooms have been replaced with permanent classrooms across the Hornsby electorate in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007?
 - (4) (a) How many demountables will be replaced in 2008?
(b) In which schools?
- 2844 ST IVES SHOWGROUND—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) representing the Minister for Lands, Minister for Rural Affairs, Minister for Regional Development—
- (1) What plans are being considered for alternative or changed uses of land at St Ives Showground (a Crown Lands Reserve owned by the Lands Department with Ku-ring-gai Council as custodian)?
 - (2) What discussions have taken place in the past year between the Lands Department and Ku-ring-gai Council or any sporting bodies regarding potential future uses of St Ives Showground?
 - (3) Is the Minister aware of Ku-ring-gai Council negotiations with the AFL or other sporting groups which the Lands Department is not actively involved in?
- 2845 ROAD LINK BETWEEN THE F3 AND M2—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- Regarding the project to build the missing road link between the F3 and M2:
- (1) (a) Is it true that your department asked the Federal Government to again check modelling to see if it was necessary?
(b) If so, why?
 - (2) What is the total average weekly vehicle flow using the F3?
 - (3) What is the average weekly vehicle flow using the F3 to travel to or from the Central Coast?
 - (4) What is the average weekly vehicle flow using the F3 to travel to or from the section of the Pacific Highway south of the F3 (heading towards or away from Chatswood)?
- 2846 COST PLUS RESIDENTIAL CONTRACTS—Mr Jonathan O'Dea to ask the Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Youth, Minister for Volunteering—
- (1) What problems, if any, is the Government aware of regarding the use of Cost Plus Residential Building Contracts in NSW?
 - (2) Given that the Queensland State Government has regulated use of Cost Plus Residential Building Contracts, what plans has the NSW Government to do likewise in order to better protect consumers?

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- 2847 ILLEGAL CATTLE MOVEMENTS ON THE NSW NORTH COAST—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Emergency Services, and Minister for Water representing the Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Mineral Resources, and Minister for State Development—
- In relation to illegal cattle movements on the NSW North Coast, how many infringement notices have been issued for the illegal movement of cattle from Queensland to New South Wales through Tomewin, Kennedy Drive and Sexton Hill in:
- (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008 year-to-date?
- 2848 CROSS-BORDER HEALTH AGREEMENT—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health—
- Given that the Minister has advised in previous correspondence that validated financial expenditure data concerning the Cross-Border Health Agreement between New South Wales and Queensland would not be available until February 2008, what is the total expenditure in the last financial year, and also the year-to-date expenditure for the current financial year?
- 2849 RESURFACING OF THE PACIFIC HIGHWAY AT SEXTON HILL—Mr Geoff Provest to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—
- Given that a spokesperson for the RTA has advised "The RTA is assessing tenders and will determine when the work will be carried out once the tender process is complete":
- (1) Who is the accepted tenderer for the resurfacing of the 7km section of the Pacific Highway between Chinderah and Sexton Hill?
 - (2) How much is this tenderer being paid for this project?
 - (3) How long does the RTA anticipate it will take for this project to be completed?
 - (4) What are the proposed start and finish dates for the completion of this project?
- 2850 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE—ROTARY WING HELICOPTER—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- (1) Has the current National Parks and Wildlife Service rotary wing tenderer (contractor) provided an appropriate helicopter as stipulated in the tender documentation?
 - (2) If so, what helicopter has the successful tenderer supplied?
 - (3) If not, has the interim helicopter been certified by the aircraft manufacturer authorised maintenance organisation as was required in the tender?
- 2851 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE—ROTARY WING TENDER—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- (1) Why does the current National Parks and Wildlife Service rotary wing tender specify that up to three rotary wing aircraft and a total of 180 hours should be supplied per annum over the six-month tender, when this is clearly not a viable proposition for a commercial operator?
 - (2) Given that this is not commercially viable, does the National Parks and Wildlife Service expect to receive a good pool of tenderers?
 - (3) How many operating hours will the successful tenderer receive outside the fire season?
 - (4) Will all potential tenderers be made aware of the existence of these additional operating hours?
- 2852 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE—ROTARY WING TENDER—Mr Michael Richardson to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—
- (1) Is there currently an ad hoc arrangement for the provision of helicopters to the National Parks and Wildlife Service and if so are they only leased from operators with helicopters that meet all required tender specifications?
 - (2) Does the current chief pilot at the National Parks and Wildlife Service have full authority to choose the ad hoc operator or does his decision have to be ratified by a superior?
 - (3) In the previous tender for rotary wing helicopters for the National Parks and Wildlife Service did the chief pilot have any direct or indirect involvement in choosing the successful tenderer?
 - (4) Is the chief pilot free to have himself and any other pilot of his choosing use flying hours to become endorsed on all aircraft that are provided through the tender process?
 - (5) Is the chief pilot to be involved either directly or indirectly in the choosing of successful tenders for

the current tender that closes on 21 May 2008?

2853 INCIDENTS OF ASSAULT IN JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRES—Mr Greg Smith to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Western Sydney, Minister Assisting the Premier on Citizenship—

How many incidents of assault on detainees of Juvenile Justice Centres have occurred in NSW Juvenile Justice Centres between:

- (a) July 2007 to date;
- (b) July 2006 to June 2007;
- (c) July 2005 to June 2006?

2854 INCIDENTS OF CONTRABAND IN JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRES—Mr Greg Smith to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Western Sydney, Minister Assisting the Premier on Citizenship—

How many incidents of contraband entering NSW Juvenile Justice Centres have been recorded on the Department's Central Information Management System (CIMS) between:

- (a) July 2007 to date;
- (b) July 2006 to June 2007;
- (c) July 2005 to June 2006?

2855 INCIDENTS OF ASSAULT ON STAFF IN JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTRES—Mr Greg Smith to ask the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Western Sydney, Minister Assisting the Premier on Citizenship—

How many incidents of assault on staff of the Department of Juvenile Justice have occurred in Juvenile Justice Centres between:

- (a) July 2007 to date;
- (b) July 2006 to June 2007;
- (c) July 2005 to June 2006?

2856 DAWN SERVICE AT GALLIPOLI—Mr George Souris to ask the Premier, Minister for Citizenship—

Why was a wreath not laid on behalf of the New South Wales Government at the dawn services held at Gallipoli and Villers-Bretonneux?

2857 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICE TYPE REVIEW—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

- (1) How has the Community Transport Service Type Review resulted in providing better public transport to frail older people, younger people and people with a disability and their carers?
- (2) How will the outcomes of the review impact on the public bus transport provided to serve the rapidly increasing population of frail older people in Pittwater?

2858 BUS TRAVELLING TIMES—E88 SERVICE—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance—

- (1) (a) Does the RTA monitor bus-travelling times into the Sydney Central Business District from various locations in the Sydney Metropolitan area?
- (b) If so, what is the time it takes for the E88 service leaving North Avalon (Careel Head Road) at 7.21 am to Central Station on weekdays?
- (2) On how many occasions has this service arrived at Central Station more than 5 minutes past the scheduled arrival time during the past 12 months?

2859 COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT MANUAL—Mr Rob Stokes to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

When will notice of the publication of the proposed coastal zone management manual be provided in the NSW Government Gazette?

2860 PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE NEAR WARRELL CREEK—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Minister for Health representing the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

In relation to your recent decision to change the previously approved route for the Pacific Highway

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upgrade near Warrell Creek:

- (1) (a) Are you aware very few details of the approved route are publicly available?
- (b) If so, is this the result of Ministerial policy or instruction?
- (2) Will the Minister guarantee full and prompt compensation to those persons disadvantaged by their investments since 1999 on the advice that the Warrell Creek Section has had Ministerial approval and if necessary, will the Minister guarantee full legal assistance for a class action by those claiming losses due to the misleading advice received from RTA or its website?
- (3) Is the statement by the Pacific Highway Upgrade project manager from Grafton, when asked if RTA intended to honour its assurance regarding the Ministerial Approval of the Warrell Creek Section, that: "We don't have to honour our assurance if we can find a better way", a standing policy of the RTA with Ministerial knowledge and approval?

2861 EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY—APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL—Mr Andrew Stoner to ask the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Education and Training, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for the Central Coast, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Finance—

- (1) Were any members of the staff at Edith Cowan University (excluding any staff in any extension or outreach programme) approached to provide a reference for the appointment of the new Principal, Dr Curry?
- (2) How was the current Principal assessed for suitability to the position?
- (3) Who were the three referees provided for Dr Curry?

2862 REPRESENTATIONS—MR ROHIT PATHIK—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services—

When will a response to a letter sent to the Minister on 7 March 2008 regarding funding for urgent modifications to a home on behalf of a constituent, Mr Rohit Pathik who is suffering spinal cord injuries, be sent?

2863 SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY—ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Does the current tender for the provision of helicopters to the National Parks and Wildlife Service include the provision of rotary wing aircraft for the protection of the Sydney catchment area and will the aircraft be on standby in those areas?
- (2) Why is the Sydney Catchment Authority not tendering directly for the provision of helicopters for their areas of protection as it has previously done?
- (3) Will National Parks and Wildlife Service charge the Sydney Catchment Authority for the use of those aircraft and will that charge be greater than the fee paid by NPWS to lease those aircraft?

2864 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE—HELICOPTERS—Mr Ray Williams to ask the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)—

- (1) Does the current arrangement for the supply of helicopters to the National Parks and Wildlife Service allow the NPWS Aviation Division to on-charge individual regions of national parks for the supply of helicopters and is that charge greater than the fee paid by the Aviation Division to lease those aircraft?
- (2) Will regions be allowed or encouraged to get quotes for cheaper helicopter services so that there is more money available in regions for actual on the ground works?