

CARBON FARMING — PASTORAL LEASES

579. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to my question without notice 177 of 28 March 2018 asking for an indication of when the minister would provide the relevant approvals that would enable pastoralists in Western Australia to access the federal government's emissions reduction fund for carbon farming. At the time, the minister responded that she was working towards a date of June 2018. That date was deferred to December 2018, then to April 2019 and now I understand to July 2019.

- (1) Can the minister give an undertaking that the necessary approvals will be provided by 1 July 2019?
- (2) If not, can the minister provide an explanation for the delay or a revised date for the approvals?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for this question.

- (1)–(2) I comment that this is a very complex issue with a range of different and conflicting interests. We have put a significant, multi-agency effort into the policy considerations surrounding eligible interest holder consents. This work is ongoing as we endeavour to build industry consensus around this issue.