

FLOOD MITIGATION — CARNARVON

989. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to the answer to question without notice 804, that the Carnarvon flood mitigation project has the potential to access funds from the royalties for regions water and natural resource management initiative.

- (1) Were the comments by Carnarvon shire president, Karl Brandenburg, in the *Northern Guardian* of 2 November 2011 accurate when he said that the state government had committed \$45 million to the project?
- (2) If yes to (1) —
 - (a) will the \$45 million all come from the \$78.2 million over four years allocation to the royalties for regions water and natural resource management fund; and, if not, what component allocations from the state budget make up the \$45 million; and
 - (b) has the Shire of Carnarvon made an application for the \$45 million; if so, will the minister table the application; and, if not, why not?
- (3) If the comments are not correct, has the state government committed any money specifically to the Carnarvon flood mitigation works, or will the Shire of Carnarvon be required to apply competitively for a share of the royalties for regions water and natural resource management funding in order to realise the potential the minister referred to in his previous answer?

Hon WENDY DUNCAN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The minister has provided the following answer —

- (1)–(3) As the member has previously been advised, the Carnarvon flood mitigation project has the potential to access funding through the royalties for regions water and natural resource management initiative, as well as the royalties for regions Gascoyne revitalisation program. The Department of Regional Development and Lands has been working with the Departments of Water, and Agriculture and Food, as well as the Gascoyne revitalisation committee and the Shire of Carnarvon on this matter. A submission on the extent of the government's funding commitment to the project is being finalised and will be considered shortly.