

FARM WATER GRANT SCHEME

Hon BARRY HOUSE to the minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage:

Continuing today's water theme, I ask -

- (1) How many applications were received through the farm water grant scheme that closed on 16 December 2002?
- (2) How many applications were granted, and was the full amount of \$1.5 million allocated?
- (3) Would a reverse osmosis system be favourably considered under the category of a filtration unit required for domestic use?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?
- (5) Were any reverse osmosis systems granted funding under the farm water grant scheme?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) There were 194 applications received through the farm water grant scheme - FWGS.
- (2) The 267 eligible grants were valued at \$1.7 million. An additional \$0.2 million from the existing FWGS was made available for the December 2002 applications.
- (3) Yes. Desalination is one of the projects eligible for assistance under the FWGS.
- (4) See (3).
- (5) Yes. One reverse osmosis system was funded.