

WALPOLE WILDERNESS, LOGGING

694. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

I refer to the answer to question on notice No. 130 of 9 August 2000 and ask -

- (a) does the Minister agree with the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism's statement that "some 90 per cent of the current Walpole Wilderness proposal will be reserved";
- (b) if yes, will the Minister advise -
 - (i) how many hectares of the area is currently reserved or excluded from logging, and how many hectares are available for logging; and
 - (ii) how many hectares of the area will be reserved or excluded from logging from 2004, and how many hectares will be available for logging; and
- (c) if no, will the Minister advise what percentage of the Walpole Wilderness proposal is actually reserved or excluded from logging?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (a) About 90 per cent of the Walpole Wilderness proposal is currently reserved, proposed for reservation or otherwise not available for timber harvesting.
- (b) About 305 000 hectares is currently reserved or excluded from timber harvesting and about 30 000 hectares is currently available for timber harvesting.
- (c) Not applicable.