

WESTERN POWER — OUTAGES

897. Hon Colin de Grussa to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Energy:

I refer to the recent power blackouts which are ongoing in Quairading, South Quairading, Danging, Wamenusking, Bulyee, Dulbelling, Badjaling, Balkuling, Pantapin, Aldersyde, Merredin and Yoting, and I ask:

- (a) does Western Power have any policies around power pole repairs on wet ground, when were these last updated and, can you please table a copy of the policy; and
- (b) when were the poles in this region last assessed for maintenance requirements and, please table any recent maintenance records?

**Hon Matthew Swinbourn replied:**

There are no ongoing blackouts in Quairading. There were recently outages caused by flooding events.

- (a) Western Power has a Safety, Health and Environment Management System that provides a structured, systematic, and quality assured method for managing risks. Western Power's work risk procedures require crews to review risks and site conditions when responding to a fault or network damage. If the risk is assessed as too high, then the site will remain de-energised until ground conditions improve and repairs can be undertaken.
- (b) In the areas quoted, Western Power has inspected 5,559 assets within the last two years. Of those inspections undertaken, there were 277 assets that either required maintenance, reinforcement or replacement and this work was scheduled into Western Power's maintenance program. This process is in line with Western Power's asset management strategies.