

YAKKA MUNGA STATION — LAND CLEARING

954. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the Minister for Environment's letter of 26 August about the appeal against requirements of vegetation conservation notice CPS 8557/1 Yakka Munga station, Geegully Creek, which acknowledged that certain material the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation published purporting to provide guidance on the application of exemptions applicable to pastoral activities did not reflect the department's current position.

- (1) Can the minister please explain why there is not consistency in the process between the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Pastoral Lands Board?
- (2) Given the ongoing issue between Yakka Munga, DWER and the PLB, will the minister endeavour to convene meetings of all parties to expeditiously resolve the issue?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Pastoral Lands Board administer different legislation, each of which requires its own regulatory processes regarding clearing of native vegetation.
- (2) I am aware that DWER has already met with the PLB and other state agencies on this matter. Both DWER and the Office of the Appeals Convenor have met with representatives of Zenith Australia Investment Holding Pty Ltd on several occasions.