

Division 42: Office of Water Regulation -

Question: Mrs Edwardes asked how the Office of Water Regulation will pay for the parity and wages policy reductions? How does the Office of Water Regulation meet the other savings requirements?

Answer:

	01-02 05 '000'	02-03 '000'	03-04 '000'	04- '000'
Required Savings				
Parity and wages policy	15	32	66	88
Priority Dividend	193	267	271	271
Assurance Dividend	100	101	101	101
Total	308	400	438	460
Savings Identified				
Salaries				
Level 7 Policy position	78	78	78	78
Level 5 Policy position	60	60	60	60
Level 9 redeployee salary (50%)	50	50	50	50
Subtotal	188	188	188	188
Motor Vehicle Relinquished Lease/Maintenance Costs	10	10	10	10
<i>Reduction in Grants Payments</i>				
Rural Water Grants Scheme reduction	200	250	250	250
Coral Bay Water	64	65	66	66
Coral Bay Sewerage	130	130	130	130
Subtotal	394	445	446	446
<i>Total Identified Savings</i>	<i>592</i>	<i>643</i>	<i>644</i>	<i>644</i>

Question: Mr Hyde asked will the formation of the Economic Regulator generate savings? What are they?

Answer: It is not possible, at this time, to estimate the savings that will result from formation of the Economic Regulator. The form of the new regulator is yet to be determined by Government.

Question: Mr Hyde asked in relation to review of performance standards: Will the community be involved? If so, how will they be involved?

Answer: The period for public submissions has been extended to Friday 12 October 2001. 50 written submissions have already been received. After 28 September 2001 the submissions will be placed on the Office of Water Regulation's website so they can be viewed by licence holders and customers. The submissions made by the Water Corporation, Water Boards and some shires are already on the website.

The next stage of the review will be the assessment of the submissions by the Office of Water Regulation and preparation of draft recommendations. These will be taken to a workshop to be held in November that will bring together customers, licence holders and other stakeholders.

Following the workshop the Office of Water Regulation will finalise the recommendations before forwarding them to the Minister for her consideration. With the Minister's approval the recommendations will be implemented by amending the licences, probably in mid-2002.