

RURAL AND REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

1135. Hon KEN TRAVERS to Hon Nigel Hallett:

I refer the member to order of the day 117, standing in the member's name, on the withholding and withdrawal of funds from rural and regional Western Australia and to the recent commitments by Kevin Rudd that a future Labor government will provide a \$10 million desalination plant at Wellington Dam; \$6.6 million to fund half the cost of the Gascoyne irrigation pipeline project; \$60 million to improve access to Esperance port; \$160 million for vital roads in Port Hedland; \$80 million to improve links between Karratha, Dampier port and the Burrup Peninsula; and \$136 million towards Bunbury port access and the outer ring road.

- (1) Can the member identify any similar commitments by the Howard government to important rural and regional infrastructure in Western Australia?
- (2) Will the member now accept the amendment to his motion moved by the Leader of the House to ensure that the motion correctly notes with grave concern the Howard government's lack of funding for rural and regional Western Australia?

Hon NIGEL HALLETT replied:

As I received no prior notice of this question, I ask the member to please put it on notice.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Does Hon Ken Travers have another question?

Hon Ken Travers: No.

The PRESIDENT: Good. I think it is reasonable to note that Hon Nigel Hallett has listened to a lot of answers that have been given recently in this chamber.