

SOUTHERN FORESTS IRRIGATION SCHEME

501. Hon DIANE EVERS to the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to the minister's response to my question without notice 405 asked in the Legislative Council on 7 May 2019 about the proposed southern forests irrigation scheme.

- (1) What proportion of water contract applications are from parties who are not landholders in the SFIS region, and are any of these parties publicly listed companies or owned by publicly listed companies?
- (2) Will the minister detail the total volume of water in contract applications submitted by Blue Sky companies, including Blue Sky Water Partners, Blue Sky Water Fund, Blue Sky Alternative Investments or other parties related to any of these; and, if not, why not?
- (3) Will local landholders participating in the SFIS have the right to sell their water allocation to parties who are not landholders in the SFIS region?
- (4) Will it be possible for participants who are not landholders in the SFIS region to profit from the scheme by selling their water allocation?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1) All water contracts are with landholders that are within the southern forests irrigation scheme region. No parties that are publicly listed companies or owned by publicly listed companies have water contracts with the SFIS.
- (2) No water contracts have been purchased by Blue Sky companies.
- (3) Landholders can sell or trade water only to other landholders connected to the scheme and who are a members of the Southern Forests Irrigation Co-operative.
- (4) In addition to the above, the cooperative rules require a member to hold land within the SFIS region.