

WAROONA–YARLOOP BUSHFIRES — FERGUSON REPORT

921. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

- (1) The minister has committed to a time frame of the end of September to give the government's response on the Ferguson report. With the fire season fast approaching, will the minister confirm a date for the government's response?
- (2) What strategy is the government taking in response to the Ferguson report on the Waroona fires to ensure that measures are in place before this year's bushfire season?
- (3) What steps has the government taken to allow landholders to prepare and maintain permanent firebreaks on road reserves and in state forest and timber reserves marked as crown lands that border farms and private properties?
- (4) When will the minister allow bushfire fighting volunteers equal rights as bushfire control officers to enter crown lands for the purpose of controlling or extinguishing a fire in order to protect private property?
- (5) Could the minister please explain how the government plans to address the discrepancy in the cost of prescribed burns, when this year's budget report estimated the actual cost of prescribed burns per hectare in 2015 as \$63.10, when it projected \$10.86? The report also found the previous year's cost at \$15.40 and furthermore, it is projecting this year's cost at \$15.40.

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

It was quite an extensive question, but, alas, I do not have an answer. When did the member submit it—today?

Hon Nigel Hallett: This morning.

Hon DONNA FARAGHER: I have not seen it, but if I receive it before the end of question time, I will certainly provide it to the member.