

DAIRY ASSISTANCE FUND

954 Hon HELEN HODGSON to the minister representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

I refer to the minister's response to question without notice 868.

- (1) Is the dairy assistance fund regarded as a part of the net asset of the Dairy Industry Authority to be transferred to the dairy industry?
- (2) If so, what role will the Government play in assessing applications for assistance from the dairy assistance fund?
- (3) What amount of the margin collected on the sale of market milk will be set aside in the dairy assistance fund -
 - (a) as a continuation of existing arrangements;
 - (b) under the federal assistance package; and
 - (c) under additional assistance measures to be implemented by the State Government?
- (4) What purposes are considered to be "for the benefit of the Western Australian Dairy Industry" and therefore eligible for assistance from the dairy assistance fund?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(4) The net assets of the Dairy Industry Authority include the moneys in the dairy assistance fund. To assist a managed transition to a deregulated market ownership, the net assets of the DIA will be transferred to the industry. A transition advisory group has been appointed under ministerial authority to plan and guide the DIA transition.