

WATER FORUMS AND WATER SYMPOSIUM, PRIORITY OF SOLUTIONS

514. Mr J.P.D. Edwards to the Premier

Noting that reclaimed water was voted the top ranking issue across the 18 metropolitan Water Forums, and in reference to the article on page 21 of the *Sunday Times* on Sunday 13 October 2002 entitled 'Water tax may hit \$205m' which suggested that taxpayers may be asked to contribute \$205m towards the construction of a desalination plant, I ask the Premier -

- (a) has Cabinet already prioritised the solutions offered at the Water Forums and the Water Symposium; and
- (b) what is the reason the Government is ignoring the potential for waste water reclamation by diverting funds to a lesser ranked solution that ensures continuity of Perth's water supply?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

The Minister for Government Enterprises has provided the following response:

- (1) No
- (2) Not applicable