

WATER — PERTH AND INTERCONNECTED SYSTEM — DROUGHTPROOFING

3871. Mr D.J. Kelly to the Minister for Water:

I refer the Minister to statements she made on 26 February 2015, in this house that the State Government has “drought proofed” Perth and the interconnected system, and I ask:

- (a) on what date does the Minister believe Perth and the interconnected system became drought proof;
- (b) what was the criteria used by the Minister to determine whether or not Perth and the interconnected system is drought proof;
- (c) does the Minister believe that Perth and the interconnected system is now drought proof on a permanent basis, and if not, why not; and
- (d) does the Board of the Water Corporation believe that Perth and the interconnected system is now drought proof?

**Ms M.J. Davies replied:**

- (a)–(d) ‘Drought-proofing’ Perth was raised in the context of the State Government’s intense capital investment in developing climate-independent sources of water - this commitment has been made through desalination and groundwater replenishment.

Security of our water supplies in the state’s drying climate includes new sources, increasing water recycling, demand management, reducing water use and securing quality, reliability and capacity through projects such as the Mundaring Water Treatment Plant. They all play an equally important role to ensure we have a sustainable water supply.

In response to our drying climate, the Water Corporation has a ten-year plan so that sufficient water supplies can be maintained, whatever the weather.