

WATER CORPORATION, LICENCE TO USE REMAINING GROUND WATER

**869. Mr EDWARDS to the Premier:**

Why will the Premier not grant the Water Corporation the licence to immediately use the remaining 80 gigalitres of ground water?

**Dr GALLOP replied:**

For the very reason I outlined in the answer to the question on the aquifer. All these issues must be considered in relation to their impact on the environment, on water quality and on water supply. All these decisions must go through a proper process. That is the answer to the member's question. The announcement I made today has gone through that process. This Government does things properly. We are seeing that -

Several members interjected.

Dr GALLOP: Does the Leader of the Opposition want a debate about the excessive logging of this State's old-growth forests? Members opposite were not interested in the proper science of that equation. This Government takes science seriously. The Minister for the Environment is responsible for the environmental issues and the Minister for Government Enterprises is responsible for the Water Corporation. When we announce a policy, it is based on the wisdom of all relevant agencies. Any decision will be made according to proper logic.