

WATER RESOURCES, INITIATIVES IN SOUTH WEST

1887. Hon Barry House to the Minister for Government Enterprises
- (1) Does the Water Corporation have any plans to dam the Brunswick River at Beela (160km south of Perth) in the next ten years and if so what will the water be used for?
 - (2) Is the Water Corporation addressing the Salinity problem associated with Wellington Dam near Collie to use this water to supplement the metropolitan supply?
 - (3) If so, when and how?
 - (4) Does the Water Corporation have a timetable for the '100 year storm proofing' of the other dams in the Collie-Wellington area (ie. Logue Brook Dam, Drakesbrook, Sampson) and if so what effect will this have on irrigators and consumers?
 - (5) Where will the new Transfield Power Station at Kemerton get its water from and what water is allocated for further expansion of Kemerton?
 - (6) Is the Water Corporation going to address the poor quality of drinking water currently being supplied to the Preston Beach townsite?
 - (7) If so, when and how?
 - (8) Does the Water Corporation have any plans for any new bores in the Collie-Wellington area?

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS replied:

- (1) The Brunswick River has been identified as a future water source for many years. There is no exact date of when it was first identified, however a report completed in 1970, "The Useable Surface Water Resources of Western Australia", identifies the river as a potential drinking water source. Several studies since that time including Perth's Water Future completed in 1995 and the State Water Strategy launched in February 2003 also list the Brunswick River as a potential water source. The timing of any development would be greater than ten years.
- (2) The Department of Environment is addressing the salinity problems associated with Wellington Dam.
- (3) Not applicable, see question 2.
- (4) The Water Corporation's dams already far exceed a "100 year storm proof" standard.
- (5) The Corporation has not been approached to provide water to the new Transfield Power Station.
- (6)-(7) The Preston Beach town-site water currently meets the Australian Drinking Water Guideline Health standards and the Corporation continues to improve the aesthetics of the water, such as dosing source water with Calgon to reduce hardness related problems. The Corporation has a current program of investigating new local groundwater sources for the Preston Beach town-site. New sources will provide more security of supply and aim to improve water quality aesthetics.
- (8) No.