

ARMADALE DISTRICT — ELECTRICAL OUTAGES

5765. Dr A.D. Buti to the Minister for Energy

In relation to electrical blackouts/outrages in the Seville Grove, Camillo, Kelmscott, Armadale, Mt Nasura, Mt Richon, Wungong, Brookdale, Champion Lakes and Harrisdale suburbs or districts:

- (a) on what dates from 1 January 2009 to 31 March 2011 have electrical blackouts/outages occurred in each of these suburbs;
- (b) what was the duration of each electrical blackout/outage;
- (c) what was the reason for each electrical blackout/outage; and
- (d) could the Minister please provide a comparison of these outages with the state average?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a)–(d) [See paper 3766] with respect to questions (a), (b) and (c) listing the summary of outages which customers have experienced in those particular areas over the time period 1 January 2009 to 31 March 2011. Due to the number of outages, the date of each incident has not been provided.

Each outage, on average, affected 270 customers out of approximately 15,000 customers in these areas. The average duration per customer over this time period is 139 minutes. Of all outages there were 196 planned outages necessary to undertake maintenance work activities.

In respect to Question (d), for time period 1 January 2009 to 31 March 2011, each customer in those areas on average experienced 11.5 interruptions. In comparison, customers on the whole network over this same time period experienced 4.5 interruptions.

The majority of interruptions to a customer on average over this time period were caused through environmental events and third party factors such as:

- The severe storms on the 22 March 2010 and the 28 February 2011;
- Wind borne debris in conductors;
- Lightning strikes;
- Birds in equipment;
- Vegetation in overhead conductors;
- Asset damage from bushfires;
- Pole damage from car collisions;
- Loss of supply from third party owned power stations; and
- Equipment failure.