

WELLINGTON DAM — WALKWAYS

5342. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Water

In relation to Wellington Dam walkways, I ask:

- (a) will pedestrians be allowed to walk across the Wellington Dam wall;
- (b) is the Minister aware that the Department of Environment and Conservation have put in a walk trail connected to the dam wall;
- (c) if pedestrians are not permitted to walk across the dam wall, what would need to be done to allow it;
- (d) is the Minister aware that the dam had a walkway a third of the way across before the recent upgrade; and
- (e) what other dams have a walkway or a drive over in this State?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) No.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) The bridge across the Wellington Dam provides the working platform for inspection, operations and maintenance work on the dam. An initial security assessment determined that the public should be excluded from operational areas, and the dam has been designed to meet this parameter. Considerable additional work would need to be undertaken before unaccompanied public access on the dam could be permitted at the Wellington Dam.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) Public walking access is permitted on most Water Corporation dams. Public vehicle access across the dam crest is also allowed on many Corporation dams.