

JARRAH REGROWTH STANDS, EXPENDITURE ON THINNING PROGRAM

709. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for Forest Products:

- (1) How much of the \$3 million allocated over five years under the Regional Forest Agreement for thinning of jarrah regrowth stands was spent in 1999-2000?
- (2) What is the total expenditure to date of this \$3 million?
- (3) How many individuals have been employed as part of the \$3 million thinnings program?
- (4) How many of these were former timber workers?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1) \$812,705.00 spent on the RFA forest enhancement program.
- (2) \$884,214.45 spent as at 14 September 2000.
- (3) Twenty nine people have been employed to undertake the forest enhancement work.
- (4) All twenty nine people were previously employed at the Whittakers Greenbushes sawmill. Another eight people also previously employed at the Greenbushes sawmill were employed on recreation and tourism works during the 1999-2000 financial year.