

KIMBERLEY FLOODS — FITZROY CROSSING

7. Hon NEIL THOMSON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Water:

I refer to the recent reports that sewage is still flowing into the Martuwarra Fitzroy River as a result of extensive damage to water infrastructure during the flooding event in Fitzroy Crossing 45 days ago. When is it expected the damaged infrastructure will be repaired to the extent that sewage is no longer leaking—I should edit this to say “pouring”—into the river?

Hon PIERRE YANG replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Water.

Water Corporation crews began repairs on 28 January, replacing about 80 metres of damaged main on the eastern side of the river. Heavy rainfall on 28 and 29 January caused river levels to rise, re-flooding the work site and rendering it inaccessible. Main Roads Western Australia has now restored access to the site and Water Corporation crews will commence repair work on Wednesday, 15 February. Weather permitting, the repairs are expected to be completed by Sunday, 19 February.