

ELECTRICITY OUTAGES — CHARLOTTE'S VINEYARD, ELLENBROOK

4725. Ms R. Saffioti to the minister representing the Minister for Energy

I refer the Minister to the high number of power outages that residents in Charlotte's Vineyard, Ellenbrook have had to deal with, and I ask:

- (a) how many power outages has Charlotte's Vineyard suffered in the follow calendar years:
 - (i) 2009;
 - (ii) 2010; and
 - (iii) 2011;
- (b) what is the average duration of the outages for each year;
- (c) how many homes have been affected by the outages for each year;
- (d) what is the primary cause of the outages in Charlotte's Vineyard;
- (e) what work has been carried out to resolve these power outages; and
- (f) when will the work be completed?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

(a)-(c) [See paper 3214.]

- (d) Most unplanned outages during these periods have been due to equipment failures. Some outages have also been attributed to termite activities in underground cables.

Since 2009, 3 outages were caused by severe weather conditions. One incident was caused by a machine (third party) which hit an underground HV cable while excavating.

- (e)-(f) As the equipment failure issues were caused by underground cable joints and termite activities, targeted reinforcement work has been undertaken with 4.5km of underground cable replaced with more termite resistant cables.

Western Power has an asset replacement program that replaces assets based on their condition (determined using a regular inspection process). As a part of this program, Western Power will replace or maintain assets that are assessed to have a significant risk of failure..