

YARRAGADEE AQUIFER, EXTRACTION RATE

1057. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

In relation to the study the Water and Rivers Commission and Water Corporation were commissioned to carry out on the increased extraction from the Yarragadee aquifer -

- (1) How much is currently extracted from the Yarragadee aquifer for -
  - (a) household consumption;
  - (b) industrial use; and
  - (c) mining operations?
- (2) What is the current recharge rate of the Yarragadee aquifer?
- (3) Has the Government called for tenders for the proposed Yarragadee aquifer pipeline?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The Minister for the Environment has provided the following response:

The response to this question is in relation to the South West Yarragadee.

- (1) The total licensed entitlements for the South West Yarragadee is approximately 100 GL/annum. Actual ground water use is approximately 70 GL per annum.
  - (a) Current licensed entitlements for water supply are approximately 24 GL/annum for household consumption.
  - (b) Approximately 12 GL/annum is licensed for industry use.
  - (c) Approximately 22 GL/annum is licensed for mining use.The remaining 42 GL/annum is allocated for other uses including dairy, horticulture, viticulture and orchards.
- (2) The current recharge for the South West Yarragadee is estimated to be between 5 and 15 per cent of rainfall. Based on the current average rainfall of 900mm in the Blackwood Ground Water Area, this percentage equates to between 45mm and 135mm of recharge per year.
- (3) No.