

FOREST PRODUCTS COMMISSION — MINISTER FOR FORESTRY — VINCE ERASMUS

29. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Minister for Forestry:

I have a supplementary question. Is it not the case that your personal style of ministerial management or, rather, mismanagement, is the reason at least three eminent and capable people have left the Forest Products Commission?

Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:

I have already answered the question. I make no apologies for holding —

Ms M.M. Quirk interjected.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: This is so typical of everyone from that side.

Mr M.P. Murray interjected.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: Straight to the gutter and personal! How dare you bring a member of my staff into this issue, who cannot stand in this house —

The SPEAKER: I have asked the member for Girrawheen and the member for Collie–Preston to let the minister answer. I want a quick answer through the Chair.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: Being a minister is not a popularity contest. I am very confident that the board we have in place, led very ably by Ross Holt, is working through a number of very critical issues for the forestry industry. If you want to draft me some questions about that, member, instead of the personality conflicts that you seem to think exist, I would be very happy to talk about the state of the forestry industry, which impacts on your electorate every day.