

TRANSPORT COSTS - B-DOUBLE TRUCKS

6. Hon M.J. CRIDDLE to the Minister for Agriculture:

I clarify that question. The point I raised concerns the cost to the agricultural sector of the non-allowance of permits in that area.

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank Hon Murray Criddle for that clarification, as I had missed his point. It is difficult for me to address that question at a time when negotiations between the Government and industry concerning extra mass permits have concluded. The Minister for Planning and Infrastructure is establishing a series of road transport forums, which will provide useful input for the minister when making those decisions. However, at this stage, the minister has made no decisions of which I am aware that preclude existing services from continuing. Some short-term permit services may have been affected by the decision. At this stage, as far as I am aware, there is either no additional cost, or the net cost is minimal.