

EMU BARRIER FENCE - FLOOD DAMAGE

23. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

Given that cropping programs in the Agricultural Region will commence in the near future, and given that 32 kilometres of the emu barrier fence have suffered flood damage, I ask -

- (1) Have tenders been called for the replacement to proceed?
- (2) What is the expected time frame for completion?
- (3) If these issues have not been addressed, what is the current position?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank Hon Murray Criddle for some notice of the question.

- (1)-(3) Yes, it is true that some 32 kilometres of the fence has collapsed along the boundary of Yuin station, where some 140 millimetres of rain were recorded in a matter of four or five hours. Work will, of course, begin as soon as the area is accessible; however, as a result of more recent rain, accessibility issues have become somewhat problematical in the Murchison area. Tenders have been called, and I understand that tenders will close on 17 March. Incidentally, I am told that the cost for the 32 kilometres of fence will be between \$6 000 and \$7 000 per kilometre. The fence is covered by insurance under RiskCover arrangements.