

PASTORAL LEASES, CYCLONE ASSISTANCE

- 60.** Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:
- (1) What financial assistance will be made to the leaseholders of the Thangoo pastoral lease and any other affected pastoral leaseholders following the devastation that resulted from the passage of cyclone Rosita across the Kimberley coastline south of Broome?
 - (2) Specifically, will similar financial support be available to those people involved in pastoral and agricultural pursuits in the Kimberley to that which was made available in the Pilbara and Gascoyne following the passage of cyclone Vance, including a subsidy to replace windmills with solar powered mills?
 - (3) If not, why not?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) Having regard for the fact that an animal welfare issue existed for pastoralists in the north of the State, the Minister for Primary Industry has approved a new scheme "Stranded (by Cyclones Steve and/or Rosita) Pastoral Livestock Welfare". It is available to persons engaged in the rural industry in areas directly affected by these cyclones. It is intended the scheme will meet the cost of transporting feed to livestock stranded on islands created by the cyclones and to assist to move them to dry land when it is safe to do so.
- (2) Agriculture Western Australia is assisting affected pastoralists at Thangoo and Mandora to prepare a submission to the Minister for Water Resources, through the Office of Water Regulation, for a special scheme of assistance to replace water points damaged by the cyclone. The proposals, if approved, would offer assistance to replace damaged water points.
- (3) Not applicable.