

WATER CORPORATION — GRASS PATCH DAM

1324. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the minister representing the Minister for Water:

I refer to the Water Corporation–owned dam at Grass Patch, which has been closed to farmers wanting to access livestock water.

- (1) Is this dam used to provide drinking water for the Grass Patch community?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Will access to this dam become available to provide supplementary stock water for farmers whose own dams are dry or will become dry in the very near future?
- (4) Who assesses the water available in the dam, and what is the method used to assess?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question. The Minister for Water has provided the following answer.

- (1) No.
- (2) The Water Corporation carts water to Grass Patch for drinking water because the local dam no longer meets the quality standards required for supply of drinking water by the Water Corporation.
- (3) Water from the old Grass Patch town dam was made available to the community to use as stock water earlier this year; however, this ceased once the water level in the dam reached its minimum safe level. The current level will still be below the minimum level at which the Water Corporation is able to allow water to be taken.
- (4) Water Corporation staff visit the site to monitor the condition of the dam and its water level. They record a level by taking a visual measurement from a gauge board. The most recent level was taken by Water Corporation staff on 18 November 2019.