

SOUTHERN FORESTS IRRIGATION SCHEME

**1087. Hon COLIN TINCKNELL to the minister representing the Minister for Water:**

I have two questions today. My first question is about the southern forests irrigation scheme.

At a meeting on 28 July with Donnelly River farmers, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation officials provided documentation that confirmed that gauging of available water for the scheme over the past three years falls short of the 95 per cent reliability previously quoted by the minister.

- (1) Can the minister outline plans for the scheme?
- (2) Will unused water from farmers in west Manjimup be used by the scheme?
- (3) Why has the minister stopped DWER officials responding to email questions from farmers arising from the meeting on 28 July?

**Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:**

I thank the member for the question. The following information has been provided by the Minister for Water.

- (1) I am aware that the southern forests irrigation scheme is undergoing assessment by the Environmental Protection Authority at the level of public environmental review.
- (2) No.
- (3) Questions presented by attendees at the 28 July meeting are under consideration.