

WATER RESOURCES LEGISLATION — REFORM

350. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Water:

I refer to the Premier's claim during his Premier's Statement over one month ago that "We will reform water resources legislation, replacing and consolidating six acts that are up to 110 years old."

- (1) Is the minister aware that the draft legislation and consultation process has been in train for almost a decade?
- (2) Has the minister considered the following in relation to the legislation —
 - (a) Aboriginal water rights;
 - (b) large-scale irrigation rights;
 - (c) the role of the Water Corporation; and
 - (d) water taxes and levies?
- (3) When will the legislation be introduced?

Hon PIERRE YANG replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The need for reform of Western Australia's water resource legislation has been recognised for some time.
- (2) The acts to be reformed deal with the management of water resources, protection of water resources and licensing the taking of water. The bill will modernise and cover these matters where appropriate.
- (3) It is intended that the bill will be introduced to Parliament this year.