

SOUTHERN FOREST IRRIGATION SCHEME

Petition

DR D.J. HONEY (Cottesloe) [3.08 pm]: I have a petition certified by the Clerk from 322 conforming signatories and 16 non-conforming signatories couched in the following terms. This petition was collected by a group of horticulturalists in the south west. It is addressed to the President, which should be to the Speaker, and reads —

To the President and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned are opposed to the proposed Southern Forest Irrigation Scheme in its current form.

We therefore ask the Legislative Assembly to recommend that a moratorium be put on the scheme until the landowners are satisfied that:

1. The research and data from Department of Water and Environmental Regulation has been independently scrutinised and sufficient landholder consultation has taken place.
2. An independent assessment has been made on the economic impact that the Southern Forest Irrigation Scheme will have on farmers from the affected Donnelly river sub-catchments.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition 105.]

Mr D.J. Kelly interjected.

The SPEAKER: Minister, please!

Members, I advise that the Member for Cottesloe has presented a petition today in relation to the proposed southern forest irrigation scheme. That petition is addressed to the “President and members of the Legislative Assembly”, and the petition’s request is to the Legislative Assembly. Although standing order 64(2) notes that a petition will be addressed to the Speaker and the Assembly, I am prepared to accept the petition as it complies in all other respects, notwithstanding that it is addressed to the President and not the Speaker.