

LIVESTOCK TRANSPORT PERMITS — EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

3411. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Transport

I refer to your announcement on 8 February 2011 regarding exceptional circumstances permit —

- (1) What are the areas and roads that permits are being issued for?
- (2) For how long will these exceptional circumstances permits be issued?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

The Department of Transport advises:

- (1) Recent rainfall has ended the exceptionally dry conditions that were being experienced within the Pilbara, Murchison and Gascoyne regions. As a result of improved pastoral conditions animal feed is now readily available in these regions, and pastoralists wish to take advantage of the improved conditions by returning livestock that had been placed on agistment in the southern parts of the State.

The Pastoral Industry Special Assistance Permits issued under the Exceptional Circumstances Policy allow 53.5 metre road trains to return livestock from agistment areas to pastoral leases in specified northern shires by travelling on the Brand Highway and on the North West Coastal Highway. Part of this route involves travel on two local roads in the City of Geraldton-Greenough.

Main Roads Western Australia's permit endorsement is available when transporting livestock within the following local governments: Ashburton, East Pilbara, Leonora, Mount Magnet, Roebourne, Upper Gascoyne, Carnarvon, Exmouth, Meekatharra, Murchison, Sandstone, Wiluna, Cue, Laverton, Menzies, Port Hedland, Shark Bay and Yalgoo.

- (2) The current permit extension is to 9 April 2011. .