

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACTS — REVIEW

982. Ms M.M. Quirk to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the review of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* which was due to finalise receipt of submissions in late March and I ask:

- (a) given that Christmas, school holidays, bushfire season and the State election intervened is the Minister prepared to extend and widen consultation;
- (b) if not, when will the Bill be ready to present in Parliament; and
- (c) if yes, what are the details of that extension and how will you ensure a broader level of consultation?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

- (a)–(c) The Department of Fire and Emergency Services is currently conducting a review of the emergency services Acts (which is the collective name for the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998*, the *Fire Brigades Act 1942* and the *Bush Fires Act 1954*). In recognition of numerous operational incidents, the closure date for submissions was extended to 30 April 2013. The Review Team is still accepting submissions, but has proceeded on to stage 2 of the review.

Stage 2 involves expert panel meetings being held from August 2013 – October 2013 and consists of topic specific meetings with stakeholder groups such as volunteers, local governments and government agencies. At the end of these sessions a Concept Paper will be drafted and released for further public comment.