

POTATO MARKETING CORPORATION — LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

395. Hon COLIN HOLT to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to the minister's answer to question without notice 366 asked yesterday by Hon Adele Farina, who is indeed a champion for potato growers in the south west, on the return of the funds to 74 potato growers.

- (1) Were any additional conditions placed on the growers as result of returning the funds?
- (2) If yes, what were those conditions?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

- (1)–(2) I am not aware of any additional conditions that were placed, other than they accepted that this was their appropriate share of this particular fund. This has been a very complex matter that has taken us some months to get a determination on which grower should get which quantum of the residual. The member will note that we put in the \$200 000 cost that was awarded to the state on the contempt matter in order to recognise the contributions made by the potato growers; we added that in. We are simply seeking for them to consent that that is the appropriate share. We were acting really on the basis of a spreadsheet that was provided by the Potato Marketing Corporation before it was wound up. Our intention is just to try to get the money out to the growers as quickly as possible, but we want them to acknowledge and agree that they consider that to be their fair share of that particular pot of money.