

NATIVE FOREST — ECOLOGICAL THINNING

**273. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the Minister for Forestry:**

I refer to my question without notice 203 of 14 March 2023 on native forest ecological thinning and the minister's statement that the future forest management plan will work on areas not volumes.

- (1) Will the minister table the Forest Products Commission's guidelines, policy and procedure for entering into contracts by private treaty?
- (2) Are contracts entered into by private treaty required to be approved by the FPC board of commissioners?
- (3) Will the minister table a list of all contracts entered into by the FPC by private treaty during the term of the *Forest management plan 2014–2023*, including the name of the other party, the purpose of the contract/treaty, the date it was entered into and the termination date?
- (4) With respect to each of the contracts identified in answer to (3), which contracts were renewed or extended, what were the commencement and termination dates of the renewed/extended contracts and were these contracts renewed/extended by private treaty?

**The PRESIDENT:** Before I give the call to the Minister for Forestry, that does sound like a lot of data, but let us see how we go.

**Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Section 56(a) of the Forest Products Act 2000 provides that the Forest Products Commission “may make any appropriate commercial arrangements, or do anything else that it considers appropriate, for the purposes of entering into production contracts and road contracts, including ... conducting negotiations by private treaty”.
- (2) The FPC board of commissioners has general oversight of all contracts entered into by the Forest Products Commission and has exclusive power to authorise contracts with a value of not less than \$10 million.
- (3)–(4) Due to the considerable time and resources required to produce this historical information, the Forest Products Commission would need to take officers away from business-critical services and therefore cannot provide an answer.