

LANDS — CARBON FARMING APPROVALS

1533. Hon NEIL THOMSON to the minister representing the Minister for Lands:

I refer to the minister's answer to question 1461 asked on 15 November 2023 that showed there are currently 18 carbon farming proposals registered but not yet approved.

- (1) Is the minister aware that approximately 100 000 tonnes of carbon could be sequestered every year for every pastoral station that gains approval, equivalent to taking 21 000 cars off the road per pastoral station?
- (2) If yes to (1), why are these 18 proposals being held up?
- (3) When did the state introduce a requirement for pastoralists to have eligible interest holder consent?
- (4) For (3), what legislative or regulatory mechanism gave effect to that requirement?
- (5) Is the minister aware that the requirement to include eligible interest holder consent without any time limit or support being provided is creating enormous frustration for those who are seeking approval, putting at risk carbon offsets for almost 400 000 motor vehicles or 15 per cent of Western Australia's motor vehicle fleet?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following response has been provided by the Minister for Lands.

- (1)–(5) State eligible interest holder consent is a requirement under commonwealth legislation. As previously advised, a standalone policy and an assessment framework are in place to support the state's eligible interest holder consent approvals process, and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage encourages carbon proponents to seek consent at the earliest possible stage.