

FORESTRY — FIREWOOD

1832. Hon Ben Dawkins to the Minister for Forestry:

I refer to the retail cost of firewood, and I ask:

- (a) can the Minister advise if the average cost of firewood has increased since the announcement that native forestry would be banned;
- (b) if no to (1), why is the Minister not informed with regards to retail firewood costs; and
- (c) what steps is the Minister taking to ensure Western Australians have access to affordable firewood into the future to address cost of living pressures?

Hon Jackie Jarvis replied:

- (a)–(c) The Cook government’s historic decision to end commercial logging in our unique WA forests has now been realised. These native forests are now protected for future generations. Firewood is still being produced from approved mine site clearing activities in the State as well as from ecological thinning of the forest for forest health. There is sufficient supply of firewood for the coming winter.