

SOUTHERN FORESTS IRRIGATION SCHEME

**1327. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development:**

I refer to the government's media release of 7 October 2022 titled "New direction for Southern Forests water security", which announced the termination of the Record Brook Dam project in Manjimup.

- (1) Does the full \$39.7 million commitment from the federal government announced in May 2019 remain committed?
- (2) Does the full \$19 million committed by the state in December 2016 and reconfirmed by the minister on 27 July 2017 remain committed?
- (3) What projects have been proposed as alternatives to the original Record Brook Dam project?
- (4) What proposals and business models have been submitted to the government as alternatives?
- (5) Will the minister please table those proposals and business models?

**Hon PIERRE YANG replied:**

I present the following answer on behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development.

- (1) The Australian government funding for southern forests water security was not included in the forward estimates in the Australian government's 2023–24 budget.
- (2) The remaining \$15.3 million for the southern forests irrigation scheme remains in the state government's budget forward estimates.
- (3) The government's response to alternatives considered by the southern forests irrigation reference group was published on 1 August 2023.
- (4) See (3).
- (5) Not applicable.