

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN 2014–2023 — CARBON STORES

1496. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) Service Area 8—Implementation of the Forest Management Plan described in several places in the *2023/24 Budget Papers*, including page 700 of *Budget Paper No. 2 – Volume 2*. I also refer to page 80 of the current *Forest Management Plan 2014–23*, which states that DBCA will “report on carbon stores in the next draft forest management plan.” I ask:

- (a) has this report been completed;
- (b) if no to (a), why not;
- (c) will the Minister table this report;
- (d) if no to (c), why not and when will it become available;
- (e) what is the total estimated amount of carbon stored in Forest Management Plan (FMP) lands currently; and
- (f) what was the total estimated amount of carbon stored in FMP lands in 2014, when the current FMP commenced?

Hon Darren West replied:

- (a) No.
- (b) As reported in the *Mid-term review of performance of the Forest Management Plan 2014–2023* and the *End-of-term review of performance of the Forest Management Plan 2014–2023* (End of Term review), no carbon measurement plots were able to be established during the term of the current Forest Management Plan and no report has been prepared.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) Not applicable.
- (e) The draft *Proposed Forest Management Plan 2024–2033* estimated that the total carbon stock (excluding soil carbon) in 2020 was close to 1000 million tonnes CO₂-equivalents. This figure was calculated in response to public submissions and made public as referral documentation for consideration of setting a level of assessment under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* by the Environmental Protection Authority.
- (f) The *Draft Forest Management Plan 2014–2023* provided an indicative above and below ground carbon stock estimate in the live standing trees in the south-west forests, projected to 2014, as 164 million tonnes, which is 600 million tonnes CO₂-equivalents.