

Question on Notice
No. 413
Asked on 28 March 2006

Mr HOBBS asked the Premier (Mr Beattie) -

QUESTION:

With reference to his announcement in December 2004 in which he indicated that he wished to see a million hectares of reserves in the western hardwoods region—
When will he release wood supply in those forests which are not part of his million hectares announcement and will his Government immediately commence an assistance scheme to address increased haulage and harvest costs?

ANSWER:

Those forests that are not part of the proposed million hectare reserve system have never been closed off from logging and remain available for wood supply. The Queensland Government recognizes that increased haulage and harvest costs resulting from the protection of forests for future generations are a source of concern to sawmilling businesses in the Western Hardwoods region. The Government is currently giving consideration to assistance arrangements for industry and a decision is expected shortly.