

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 326

asked on Wednesday, 7 March 2007

MR SPRINGBORG ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER AND MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER IN NORTH QUEENSLAND (MR WALLACE)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the \$150m set aside to assist landholders affected by vegetation management laws—

- (1) Will he provide a detailed breakdown of how much of the \$150m package has been provided to date in enterprise assistance, exit assistance, the vegetation management incentives program and best management practice programs (each program reported separately and will he also provide a breakdown by region)?
- (2) How many applications for enterprise and exit assistance have been approved and denied to date (reported separately and will he also provide a breakdown by region)?
- (3) Will he provide a breakdown of successful and unsuccessful applications for enterprise and exit assistance by industry to date, similar to what was provided on page 21 of the QRAA 2004-05 annual report?

ANSWER:

- (1) As at 5 April 2007, \$78,760,355 was provided in enterprise assistance to landholders across Queensland and \$7,410,000 was provided for exit assistance. There remain 699 applications to be assessed by QRAA under this scheme, and it is expected that all funds available will be expended.

A total of \$2,960,000 was allocated to successful tenders under the Vegetation Incentives Program. Funds of \$6,000,000 have been provided to AgForward, the commercial arm of AgForce, to continue delivery of the best management practice package. Detailed information on the provision of funds across ABARE* Regions in Queensland is outlined in the table below:

| ABARE* Region | Enterprise Assistance | Exit Assistance | Vegetation Incentives Program |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Cape York and Gulf | \$1,990,200.00 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Central Qld | \$5,832,680 | \$3,200,000 | \$16,000 |
| Charleville/ Longreach | \$18,033,258 | \$0 | \$50,000 |
| Eastern Darling Downs | \$1,191,774 | \$0 | \$101,000 |
| Maranoa/ Western Downs | \$7,743,340 | \$2,960,000 | \$539,000 |
| North Central Queensland | \$15,963,700 | \$0 | \$55,000 |
| Northern Qld Coastal – Mackay to Cairns | \$2,656,540 | \$0 | \$699,000 |
| South West Qld | \$11,461,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Southern Qld coastal – Curtis to Moreton | \$9,145,803 | \$0 | \$1,500,000 |
| Western Qld | \$4,742,040 | \$1,250,000 | \$0 |
| TOTAL | \$78,760,355 | \$7,410,000 | \$2,960,000 |

* Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics

It is not possible to break down the Best Management Practice funding by region. This is administered by AgForce.

- (2) As at 5 April 2007, 1087 applications for financial assistance have been assessed by QRAA. Of these, 917 have been approved and 170 have been refused. Detailed information on applications for enterprise and exit assistance that have been approved or refused is outlined in the table below:

| ABARE Region | Enterprise assistance | | Exit Assistance | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | Approved | Refused | Approved | Refused |
| Cape York and Gulf | 21 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Central Qld | 75 | 9 | 2 | 2 |
| Charleville/ Longreach | 201 | 15 | 0 | 3 |
| Eastern Darling Downs | 17 | 13 | 0 | 2 |
| Maranoa/ Western Downs | 103 | 27 | 2 | 9 |
| North Central Queensland | 167 | 21 | 0 | 1 |
| Northern Qld Coastal – Mackay to Cairns | 31 | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| South West Qld | 121 | 8 | 1 | 6 |
| Southern Qld coastal – Curtis to Moreton | 16 | 30 | 0 | 5 |
| Western Qld | 49 | 6 | 1 | 3 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| TOTAL | 911 | 135 | 6 | 35 |
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- (3) As at 5 April 2007, applications by industry type that have been approved or refused are detailed in the table below:

| | Enterprise Assistance | | Exit Assistance | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Industry Type | Approvals | Refused | Approvals | Refused |
| Fruit growing | 15 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Beef Cattle | 641 | 93 | 5 | 10 |
| Cotton | 3 | | 0 | 1 |
| Dairy | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Farm Produce Wholesaling wool | 1 | | 0 | 0 |
| Forestry | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Mixed Farming (grains, sheep/beef) | 22 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Hay Growing | 2 | | 0 | 3 |
| Hunting and trapping | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Beef Cattle/Sheep | 202 | 20 | 1 | 11 |
| Other Crop and Plant growing | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Livestock | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Pigs | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Property and Business Services - Plant Hire | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Sugar Cane | 9 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Vegetables | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Veterinary/Animal Service Total | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Wood products | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 911 | 135 | 6 | 35 |