QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 200

asked on Tuesday, 28 February 2017

MR JANETZKI ASKED THE MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINES (HON DR A LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise specific ground water allocations to sporting clubs and small businesses in Toowoomba South?

ANSWER:

There are currently five licences held by sporting clubs in the South Toowoomba area which authorise the take of a total of 302 megalitres of groundwater.

Water licences held by small businesses are not readily able to be determined. A water entitlement may be held in the name of the business owner or in a business name. Also, water licences are categorised by the purpose of water use, which does not distinguish licences held by small business. An example of this is a plant nursery that may have a purpose of 'irrigation'.

In Toowoomba South, there are a total of 111 water licences authorising a total take of groundwater of 2240 megalitres, not including authorisations held by the Toowoomba City Council for town water supply. A breakdown of these entitlements is as follows:

- One licence with the purpose of 'agriculture' authorising a take of 20 megalitres;
- One licence with the purpose of 'any' authorising a take of 31 megalitres;
- Three licences with the purpose of 'amenities and irrigation' authorising a take of 131 megalitres;
- 25 licences with the purpose of 'commercial or industrial' authorising a take of 895 megalitres;
- 12 licences with the purpose of 'education facility' authorising a take of 268 megalitres; and
- 69 licences with the purpose of 'irrigation' authorising a take of 895 megalitres;

The Toowoomba Regional Council provides reticulated water supply to the area that covers the Toowoomba South electorate. Many small businesses and sporting facilities may access this town water supply.