

**Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

**Additional Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 12-13 February 2007**

**Question: PM 75**

**Outcome 1, Output 4.4**

**Topic: Water use at The Lodge**

**Direct on Notice:**

**Senator Evans asked:**

**In relation to The Lodge:**

- a. **What was the total amount of water used at this residence in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (to date)?**
- b. **If possible, can a separate figure be provided for household and grounds/garden water use?**
- c. **What water saving measures were introduced in 2004-05?**
- d. **What estimated savings were generated by each of those measures?**
- e. **What water saving measures were introduced in 2005-06?**
- f. **What estimated savings were generated by each of those measures?**
- g. **What water savings have been introduced in 2006-07?**
- h. **What estimated savings have been generated by each of those measures?**
- i. **Is bore water used at this residence?**
- j. **If so how much of the water used in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (to date) was sourced from a bore?**

**Answer:**

a.

<b>2004-05</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07 (to 02/03/07)</b>
3213 kls	2510 kls	2194 kls

- b. The household and grounds/gardens are not separately metered.
- c. The following measures were introduced in 2004-05:
  - a dripper system was installed in place of the old irrigation system
  - replacement of 120 lawn sprinkler heads with more efficient, adjustable heads
  - mulching of all gardens
  - addition of water crystals to garden beds to aid water retention
  - addition of soil wetting agents to the lawns



**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

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- coring and over sowing the lawn with a more drought and wear tolerant lawn species
  - upgrade of the irrigation system to drippers in the rose gardens.
- d. In December 2004 the department submitted to ACTEW a strategy to achieve a 40% reduction in water usage, as required under Stage 3 restrictions. The strategy was endorsed by ACTEW as 'a sound methodology to achieve a 40 per cent reduction in external water use'. In 2006, ACTEW again endorsed the strategy and the measures taken to reduce water consumption.
- e. In 2005-06 the dripper system of watering was extended throughout the rest of the gardens. Mulching and the use of water crystals and wetting agents continued.
- f. It is not possible to estimate the level of savings generated by each measure.
- g. None to date.
- h. Not applicable.
- i. No.
- j. Not applicable.

