

Parliamentary Question *On Notice*

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Chamber: Assembly
Question No: 2929
Question Date: 21/11/2007
Question Asked By: Mr M.J. Cowper
Question Directed To: Minister for Water Resources
Minister Responding: Hon J.C. Kobelke
Date Answered: 27/11/2007

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Question (QON)

- (1) Can the Minister confirm how much scheme water is lost due to conveyance losses to Perth households each year?
- (2) If this loss is more than 5GL per year, can the Minister explain why some of this leakage cannot be accessed to provide an alternative to preventing the Logue Brook Dam conversion?
- (3) Can the Minister outline what will be done to assist the Waroona Shire in accommodating the increased number of water skiers that they predict will use their dam, which is one-third the size of the Logue Brook Dam?
- (4) Can the Minister outline what will be done to ensure that the safety of water skiers at the Waroona Dam will not be jeopardised due to an increased number of people accessing the dam for recreational purposes?
- (5) Can the Minister give an assurance that the Waroona Dam will not be converted to a drinking water source and cut off for recreational uses in the future?

Answer (QON)

(1) In 2006/2007 the total unaccounted for water in the metropolitan area was 19.31 GL. This figure includes unauthorised use, authorised unmetered use such as fire services, meters under-reading, burst supply mains, maintenance activities and conveyance losses through pipelines.

(2) In terms of efficiency, the Perth water supply system compares extremely favourably with other metropolitan systems across Australia and the world. The Water Corporation continuously monitors water consumed and water supplied to detect leakage trends and responds accordingly. Where reports of leaks and bursts are made, the Water Corporation responds promptly to minimise water losses.

(3) and (4) Firstly, Waroona Dam is not a Shire asset. It is owned and maintained by the Water Corporation. The water in Lake Navarino is allocated to Harvey Water for irrigation purposes. Recreation is allowed on the lake as water levels permit.

Any use of Lake Navarino for skiing is controlled under the requirements of the Navigable Waters Legislation which is administered by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

I understand that Lake Navarino is used extensively for skiing and would expect that controls are in place to facilitate the safe use of Lake Navarino for this purpose. These same controls will presumably be used to maintain the ongoing safety of skiers and other Lake Navarino users in the future. I will ask the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure to confirm that suitable arrangements are in place for skiing on Lake Navarino to be done safely.

Further, I advise that the Government has made \$10 million available through a Recreation Trust Fund which will be used to develop alternative recreation opportunities in the south west. A planning process to determine how these funds are to be expended is to be managed by the Department of Sport and Recreation under my direction. I invite the Shire of Waroona to involve itself with this process to ensure it presents appropriate opportunities for additional recreation at Lake Navarino

(5) Yes.