Permanent Water Entitlements in the Tamar

Ms FINLAY question to MINISTER for PRIMARY INDUSTRIES and WATER

Constituents have raised concerns with me about the value being placed on permanent water entitlements in the Tamar. Can the Minister advise what a permanent megalitre of surety 5 water currently costs, how that price is determined and what assessment you actually make of its market value once the entitlement is attached to privately owned agricultural land? If the Government ever needed to buy that water back, what would taxpayers actually pay? Has the Government considered whether the availability and pricing of these permanent water entitlements could undermine demand for, and ultimately the possibility of the proposed Tamar Irrigation Scheme?