

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2012

FORESTRYSA

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:11): My question is to the Premier. Is it correct that 80 to 100 ForestrySA workers in the South-East will lose their jobs in the next 24 months?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford— Treasurer, Minister for Workers Rehabilitation, Minister for Defence Industries, Minister for Veterans' Affairs) (15:11): That is a question I will have to refer to the Minister for Forests. ForestrySA reports to her—

Mr Gardner interjecting:

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: I did have carriage of the sale, but—

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: —this is the responsibility of the board of ForestrySA. I am more than happy to get an answer back to the honourable member.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:11): My supplementary question is to the Premier. Will the government guarantee that there will be no ForestrySA job losses as a result of the sale of ForestrySA's timber harvests? The Premier said on 8 December 2011:

ForestrySA jobs will be maintained. They'll be a condition of the sale. They'll be enforceable conditions.

The SPEAKER: Member for Hammond, I do not think that was a supplementary. I am not quite sure how you defined it, but I will count it as a question. Treasurer.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford— Treasurer, Minister for Workers Rehabilitation, Minister for Defence Industries, Minister for Veterans' Affairs) (15:12): The fact is that ForestrySA is an independent statutory corporation. It has its own board. The employees of ForestrySA—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: The employees of ForestrySA—

Mr Pederick: Their jobs are gone.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: —are public sector workers. They have the same rights and conditions as other public sector workers. There would be no forced redundancies under any circumstances. The government's 'no forced redundancy' provisions promise, commitment, continues until the election.