

**House of Assembly
2 December 2009**

MURRAY RIVER, RIVERBANK SLUMPING

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:16): My question is to the Minister for the River Murray. Has the government considered that, when river levels ultimately rise again between Lock 1 and Wellington, the extensive rehabilitation work carried out along the Lower Murray irrigation swamps is at serious risk of collapse? We are informed that the levy banks were not designed to be dry in that reach of the river. They have dried and have extensive cracking, so much so that they will not remain intact as water levels rise.

The Hon. K.A. MAYWALD (Chaffey—Minister for the River Murray, Minister for Water Security) (15:17): I thank the honourable member for his question, particularly as he has been informed by us about this matter. He is reliably informed by the government in relation to the matters we are dealing with below Lock 1. There are substantial issues in relation to riverbank slumping below Lock 1. Consultants SKM are doing a considerable amount of work on the risks associated with riverbank slumping. A task force of community and government officials is being led by Dean Brown to look specifically at those matters. It is the government that is informing the community about the problems we are facing.