

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Dunham

to Minister for Essential Services

Undergrounding Power for Darwin Northern Suburbs

\$2.5 million is allocated for the initial works for the undergrounding of power in Darwin's Northern Suburbs. \$1.5 million from DIPE and \$1 million for Power Water. How has this ratio been decided?

ANSWER

The amount of \$2.5 million is incorrect. \$1.5 million is to be contributed by DIPE and the Power and Water Corporation is contributing \$500,000. A total of \$2 million is allocated for the initial works for undergrounding.

The Power and Water Corporation has calculated that the Net Present Value of future savings in operations and maintenance expenditure flowing from the undergrounding project is \$15 million, or approximately 20 – 25 per cent of the total net cost (depending on contributions from Darwin City Council, Telstra and Austar).

On this basis, Power and Water is contributing \$500,000 of the \$2 million in 2002/2003.