



The Hon. Rick Mazza MLC
Member for the Agricultural Region
Parliament of Western Australia

Media Statement

February 14, 2019

Mullewa's erratic power supply needs urgent fix

Questions in parliament by Agricultural Region MLC Rick Mazza of the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party have laid bare the electricity outage plight of Mullewa residents, 100 kilometres from the regional city of Geraldton.

Mr Mazza was told that between February 1, 2014 and January 31, 2019 there were 414 power outages in the Mullewa area, with each customer experiencing on average 9.5 interruptions a year.

Mr Mazza said Mullewa's erratic power supply was a disgrace and it would not be tolerated in the Perth metropolitan area.

"Four-hundred-and-fourteen frustrating power outages over a five year period in Mullewa is simply unacceptable," Mr Mazza said.

"I understand these outages can last for extended periods of time which forces the dumping of vaccines, medicines and food with damages running upwards into thousands of dollars.

"This can't keep happening during peak summer periods where temperatures push 40 degrees. The elderly need to be able to use air-conditioners and local businesses need to be able to function."

Mr Mazza said estimated restoration times need to be improved so residents can better manage the inconvenience the power outages cause.

"I appreciate it can take time to find electrical faults, however restoration times need to be realistic so they don't begin at four hours, become 10 hours and then become unknown," Mr Mazza said.

"People are entitled to a reliable power supply."

Mr Mazza said Mullewa is a town without alternate supply backup power, and this needs to change to ensure Mullewa's future.

"It is very important this issue is addressed in a timely manner because by all accounts people are close to breaking point," Mr Mazza said.

Ends

Office I, 1139 Hay Street
West Perth WA 6005

Phone: 08 9481 6070 (Freecall 1800 781 900)
Fax: 08 9481 6071
Email: rick.mazza@mp.wa.gov.au