QUESTION ON NOTICE No. 1491 Asked on Tuesday, 9 November 2004

MR LAWLOR asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR PALASZCZUK)—

QUESTION:

With reference to pages 1–51 of the Ministerial Portfolio Statement and the recent housing boom and record sales recorded by Department of Primary Industry Forestry—

What are the sales projections for 2004–05?

ANSWER:

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries commercial business group, DPI Forestry is expecting strong demand for its products to continue throughout 2004-05 delivering forest product sales consistent with targets in the Ministerial Portfolio Statements for the year as follows:

- Plantation timber 2.1 million cubic metres;
- Native forest timber 0.343 million cubic metres;
- Quarry materials 3 million cubic metres.

DPI Forestry supplies 84 per cent of the domestically produced log timber used each year by Queensland's regionally based timber industry and 8 per cent of the State's quarry material supplies.

Over recent years, DPI Forestry has responded to vibrant demand for forest products from the processing sector, increasing high-value plantation sawlog supplies by 60% and quarry material supplies by 33% over 2000-01 levels.

This has greatly benefited Queensland's forest and timber industry which has a direct annual turnover of \$2.7 billion, contributes almost \$1 billion in value-adding to the State's economy each year and provides employment for almost 19 500 people.