**RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1990**

**Legislative Assembly, 11 October 1990, page 975**

Second reading

**The Hon. S.M. LENEHAN (Minister of Water Resources)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Renmark Irrigation Trust Act 1936. Read a first time.

The Hon. S.M. LENEHAN: I move: That this Bill be now read a second time.

I seek leave to have the second reading explanation inserted in Hansard without my reading it. Leave granted.

Explanation of Bill

This Bill amends the provisions of the existing Act with respect to allotments of land to which irrigation waters may be supplied.

Within the district of the Renmark Irrigation Trust, an allotment of land that is of an area of less than .2 of a hectare, is not entitled to a supply of water for irrigation purposes. This land is provided with a domestic water supply and the land owner is charged for the supply accordingly.

In recent times, there has been a proliferation of allotments approved for residential use in the Renmark district that are each of an area of up to .4 of a hectare. As these residential allotments are larger in area than .2 of a hectare, the owners are currently entitled to a supply of water for irrigation purposes from the Renmark Irrigation Trust.

It is not desirable that owners of residential allotments should have the same rights and privileges with respect to a supply of irrigation water as those persons whose livelihood depends on such a supply.

This Bill increases the minimum area of an allotment of land to which a supply of irrigation water may be provided, to .5 of a hectare. The owners of the residential allotments will continue to be provided with a domestic water supply by the Renmark Irrigation Trust, but will lose any entitlement to a supply of irrigation water.

Clause 1 is formal.

Clause 2 provides for commencement on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

Clause 3 amends section 5 of the principal Act which is an interpretation section. The amendment strikes out the definition of ‘ratable land’ and substitutes a new definition that differs from the current definition by excluding land that is, in one block, less than .5 of a hectare unless the block forms part of a single holding that exceeds .5 of a hectare. ‘Single holding’ is defined as any continuous area of land, or any two or more parcels of land, that are separated only by roads, track or channels, situated within the district and occupied and used by the same person as a single vineyard, orchard or garden.

Clause 4 amends section 78 of the principal Act by striking out subsection (1) and substituting a new subsection (1) dealing with the trust’s entries into the trust’s assessment book of an assessment set out in the form shown in the third schedule.

Clause 5 repeals section 83 of the principal Act and substitutes a new provision. This deals with the power of the trust to rectify the assessment book in respect of any land that has ceased to be ratable land by reason of subdivision, amendment of the principal Act, or otherwise, or on the discovery of any error or omission in the assessment book.

Clause 6 amends section 92 of the principal Act by striking out subsection (2) and substituting a new subsection (2) to bring section 92 into conformity with the new definition of ‘ratable land’.

Mr LEWIS secured the adjournment of the debate.