



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES  
SUZANNE ORR MLA (CHAIR), CANDICE BURCH MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JAMES MILLIGAN MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2017–18 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**15 November 2018**

Asked by Ms Nicole Lawder MLA:

In relation to:

**MS LAWDER:** And you mention the streetlight one but another I presume is the Evoenergy trimming under power lines. How is that going? Do you get many complaints about them not picking up their trimmed branches?

**Mr Alegria:** Look, we have had, I recall, perhaps a handful of such complaints in the recent past through representations, yes.

**MS LAWDER:** Are you work with Evoenergy to improve their responsiveness?

**Mr Alegria:** Yes we are. So we work cooperatively on, as you would probably be aware we have got the code, the technical code that they use that we have drafted to ensure that when they are doing that work it is actually looking after the health of the tree and it is not sort of damaging the tree.

And yes we work with them and provide them advice about how best to go through that work. And if we do get complaints obviously we refer them straight away to, we have a good operational relationship.

**MS LAWDER:** Do they have a standard or a service level of how quickly they are meant to remove trimmed branches?

**Mr Alegria:** I believe that is covered in the code but they do need to remove them in a timely manner. I am not exactly aware of what the timeframe specifically is but yes they do need to—

**Mr Chris Steel MLA:** The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

TCCS and EvoEnergy have procedures in place in relation to requests for powerline clearances and complaint resolution. The *Electricity (Powerline Vegetation Management) Code 2018* provides for the coordination of tree trimming or removal work conducted by EvoEnergy and TCCS to ensure the safety of the public and workers and minimise public inconvenience.

Trimmed branches are normally cleared at the time they are generated. Some delays with removing trimmed branches occurred in Spring 2018 due to the early onset of the fire danger season which necessitated an accelerated program of work which created a temporary backlog of the removal of trimmings.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services

Signature:



Date:

20/11/18

By the Minister for City Services, Mr Chris Steel MLA