

SVITZER AUSTRALIA — TUG OPERATORS

1124. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Ports:

I refer to the current proposal by Svitzer Australia to lock out its tug operators at the ports of Fremantle, Bunbury, Geraldton, Kwinana and Albany.

- (1) When were each of the ports notified by Svitzer Australia of its proposal to lock out tug operators?
- (2) What contingencies, if any, are in place at each of the ports to allow shipping movements to continue in the event of an extended lockout?
- (3) Was Svitzer Australia appointed as operator at any Western Australian ports during the time when it was experiencing industrial action; and, if so, which ports and when?
- (4) Why is the port of Esperance not affected by the lockout?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) It was on 14 November 2022.
- (2) The Fair Work Commission is currently considering the matter. Port authorities are considering what options are available to them within their port service licence agreements.
- (3) Svitzer operates under a non-exclusive licence at Albany, Fremantle and Geraldton ports.
- (4) Svitzer does not operate tug services at the port of Esperance.