

PORTLINK PROJECT

206. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to the \$5 million allocated to the PortLink project on page 649 of the 2011–12 budget.

- (1) How much of the \$5 million allocated to the PortLink project has been spent up to now?
- (2) Can the minister provide a breakdown of items that money has been spent on so far?
- (3) When will the feasibility study of the PortLink inland freight corridor development plan be completed?

HON WENDY DUNCAN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The Minister for Regional Development has provided the following response —

- (1) No funding has been spent to date. The funding allocation is subject to the Department of Transport and the Department of Regional Development and Lands signing a memorandum of understanding for release of royalties for regions funds. This is expected to be signed this month, at which time the Department of Transport can commence tender processes for the planning works.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The PortLink planning study will consist of a series of interrelated planning studies including an intermodal terminal in Kalgoorlie and associated rail alignment and land reservation; sealing of the road between Wiluna and Meekatharra; and economic modelling of the PortLink concept. Milestones of the project will be met throughout the project timeframe. Main Roads is undertaking the design and costing of the Wiluna to Meekatharra road and will commence work as soon as practical. The intermodal hub feasibility study will go to tender once documentation is prepared. It is anticipated that the rail realignment design and land reservation requirements and statutory approvals in Kalgoorlie could be completed by 30 September 2013, with completion of the full study towards the end of 2014.