

PREMIER — GINA RINEHART'S CORRESPONDENCE

772. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to an article “Rinehart reveals WA Premier clash” published in the *Australian Financial Review* on 22 January 2018, and I ask:

- (a) did the Premier, as reported, receive correspondence from Mrs Rinehart on Christmas Day;
- (b) did the Premier, as reported, whilst on leave contact an executive at Roy Hill arising from the correspondence from Mrs Rinehart;
- (c) who was the executive contacted by the Premier and was the executive a signatory to the letter he received from Mrs Rinehart; and
- (d) if the executive was not a signatory to the correspondence, what was the motivation for the Premier contacting him or her?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

- (a)–(d) Yes, correspondence was sent on Christmas Day to the WA Government email address, copying in a range of Ministers, Opposition MPs and Federal Government MPs. A copy was also provided to the media in the subsequent days, along with comment that the Government had not yet responded.

The Premier expressed his disappointment to a senior executive of that organisation that he is acquainted with, about the fact that the correspondence was provided to Government on Christmas Day then provided to the media in December before the Government had the opportunity to provide a considered response.