

ENVIRONMENT — GREENHOUSE GAS CONDITIONS — CHEVRON WHEATSTONE PROJECT

4001. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Environment:

- (1) Further to Question on Notice No. 3444, in which the Minister said “most” greenhouse gas conditions were removed from Chevron’s Wheatstone project because they were not complementary to the then Commonwealth carbon tax arrangements, were any conditions actually complementary, and if so, what conditions were they?
- (2) In the absence of a Commonwealth emissions trading scheme or other carbon regulation such as a tax, will the Minister now use his powers to reinstate the greenhouse conditions on the Wheatstone project, including any that are complementary to Commonwealth arrangements?
- (3) If not, what regulation does the Minister think is appropriate for an emitter which, by his own admission, will contribute around 14 per cent of the State’s total emission load?

**Mr A.P. Jacob replied:**

- (1) Complementarity is judged based on consideration of COAG endorsed principles for assessing complementarity. Interpretation and judgement is required in applying the principles to determine complementarity.

It was considered that the parts of the Wheatstone project greenhouse gas condition related to reporting were complementary. The then Minister for Environment maintained this requirement.

Parts of the condition related to requirements to achieve emissions intensity targets or undertake carbon offsets arrangements were not considered complementary and these were removed.

- (2) As I have previously stated, I do not intend to reapply any greenhouse gas emission conditions that have been removed by the previous Minister for Environment.
- (3) As I have also previously stated, I consider the Federal Government’s Direct Action Plan is the most appropriate mechanism to regulate greenhouse gas emissions.