

HORIZON POWER — GRID-CONNECTED SOLAR APPLICATIONS — BROOME

855. Hon KEN BASTON to the minister representing the Minister for Energy:

- (1) Can the minister confirm that Horizon Power is no longer accepting applications for new grid-connected solar power connections to the Broome electricity grid?
- (2) In the latest release of grid-connected solar power spaces on the Broome electricity grid, how many residential connections were permitted and what portion of the space available was given to clients on the A2 tariff, K2 tariff, L2 tariff and L4 tariff?
- (3) Which communities in the Mining and Pastoral Region that are serviced by Horizon Power are currently able to accept new grid-connected solar applications?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

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

I am not being difficult, but did the honourable member say K2, L4, L2 and A2?

Hon Ken Baston: A2, K2, L2 and L4.

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON: Okay, they are in a different order in the question I have, but I just want to make sure that we have the right numbers.

The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Energy.

- (1) Yes. Hosting capacity limits have been in place on Horizon Power's networks for many years. Hosting capacity limits are carefully calculated by Horizon Power and reflect the level of renewable energy that can safely connect to the grid without compromising the reliability of supply to the entire network. These limits differ from town to town for many technical reasons, including the existing energy needs of the town and the amount of renewable energy already connected to the system.
- (2) There was no capacity allocation against tariff types. A total of 1 516 kilowatts of renewable energy capacity was released in Broome.
- (3) Horizon Power can currently accept new grid-connected solar applications from these communities in the Mining and Pastoral Region—in the Kimberley, Ardyaloon, Beagle Bay, Bidyadanga, Camballin–Looma, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Djarindjin–Lombadina, Halls Creek, Kalumburu, Warmun, Kununurra, Lake Argyle, Wyndham and Wiluna; in the Pilbara, Onslow, Roebourne, Port Hedland, South Hedland, Karratha, Cossack and Point Samson; in the midwest, Carnarvon, Coral Bay, Meekatharra, Gascoyne Junction, Mt Magnet and Wiluna; and in goldfields—Esperance, Laverton, Leonora and Norseman.