

GOLDFIELDS HIGHWAY — EXTENSION

319. Hon KEN BASTON to the Minister for Regional Development:

The goldfields highway extension, which will provide a sealed road between Wiluna and Meekatharra, was identified as a priority project by the Mid West and Goldfields–Esperance Regional Blueprints. The completion of this important transport link between the Pilbara and goldfields received funding through royalties for regions in the 2016–17 *Government Mid-year Financial Projections Statement*. Will the Minister for Regional Development confirm that this long-awaited highway upgrade will be funded and is still due for completion in 2020?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for notice of the question. Given the extremely challenging fiscal circumstances, all royalties for regions projects are under review, in particular those that were made towards the end of the life of the last government. Decisions on individual projects will be made in the lead-up to the 2017–18 budget.