

MINING AND ENERGY COMPANIES — EXPORTS

258. Hon DARREN WEST to the minister representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

Members will be pleased to know that my question without notice is not to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health but rather to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

I refer to the Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia's report "State Growth Outlook 2013", which estimates that exports by mining and energy companies from Western Australian ports will increase by 200 million tonnes per annum by 2016 and by almost 300 million tonnes per annum by 2019.

- (1) Can the minister verify that the CME's estimates are correct, or will they be larger than forecast?
- (2) What strain will this increase place on the state's mining infrastructure?
- (3) What plans are being put in place to transfer the current construction-based mining workforce towards an operations-based workforce?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question, but probably the answer will not be a happy one for him.

Providing the information in the time required is not possible and I request that the member place the question on notice.