

CARNARVON POWER PROJECT

62. Hon KEN BASTON to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy:

I refer to the Carnarvon power project.

- (1) Was construction of the new Carnarvon power station commenced in October 2006, as indicated in the December 2005 power project newsletter; and, if not, why not?
- (2) What is the proposed completion date for the new Carnarvon power station?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The Minister for Energy has provided the following response -

- (1) No. The decision to outsource generation to an independent power provider in Carnarvon was made prior to the disaggregation of Western Power Corporation. With the creation of Horizon Power, the outsourcing strategy has been reviewed and the decision was made by Horizon Power not to proceed with the proposed outsourcing model. Horizon Power is currently reviewing the most appropriate and cost-effective method of maintaining long-term power supplies in Carnarvon with a view to determining the definitive course of action in mid-2007.
- (2) This is yet to be determined. Horizon Power is currently considering options for the long-term future of power supplies in Carnarvon that will seek to achieve penetration of renewable generation capacity and a focus on low-emission technology, which were not contemplated under the previous model. Horizon Power will engage the Carnarvon community over any plans for the long-term provision of power supplies in the community.