

*Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs — Forty-second Report —
“Implications for Western Australia of Hydraulic Fracturing for Unconventional Gas”*

Resumed from 17 November 2015.

Point of Order

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: I raise this question as a point of order, because I do not want to risk using one of my three goes! That is all that is available to me. Anyway, enough said; we will return to that on another occasion.

My point of order is this: I understand that under standing order 191 a response from the government should have been tabled before now and it might help inform this debate. As far as I am aware, no government response has been tabled, so what happens now in regard to standing order 191?

The CHAIR: In response to that point of order, there is a requirement that government responds within the time frame. There is no penalty, however, if it does not respond within the time frame, and although a reply was expected, it has not been received, and these are matters for the government to sort out. The only option at this point in time is if you want to move a motion to postpone consideration of that report pending the provision of a government response or alternatively we can move on and consider the report without the government response.

Motion

Hon Sue Ellery: Just defer it; that is what we have done before.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Indeed, we should not have to. If I can move to defer without blowing another one of my three chances to speak on this matter, I will move to defer, unless, of course, there are any members who would prefer to speak to this today. If it will facilitate things, I will move to postpone consideration of the report. I move —

That consideration of the forty-second report of the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs be postponed pending a response from the government.

Question put and passed.

The CHAIR: Consideration is postponed and I assure Hon Simon O'Brien that he has not blown any of his three 10-minute slots to speak.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: God bless you, Chair!