

COASTAL EROSION

879. Hon TIM CLIFFORD to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to the Premier's comments made in the other place on Tuesday, 13 August, specifically regarding coastal erosion and the suggestion it must be tackled by all state, local and commonwealth governments.

Will the Premier please explain why this government has conceded that coastal erosion should be tackled by all levels of government, yet climate change—a cause of coastal erosion—is solely the responsibility of the federal government?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

Section 51(xxxix) of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1901 enables the federal Parliament to enact laws that implement an international agreement or convention, including the Paris Climate Agreement. The McGowan government acknowledges the need to adapt to climate impacts and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions in Western Australia to protect our environment, economy and community. In December 2018, the intention to create a new state climate policy was announced. This policy will be developed to draw together and build on climate-related initiatives already underway, including measures to enhance renewable energy, secure our water supplies, accelerate the uptake of electric vehicles and unlock our state's significant carbon sequestration potential.