

COAL-FIRED GENERATORS — ENERGY EFFICIENCY

5307. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Environment

Would the Minister explain the extent to which the technology being used in the new coal fired generators—Coolimba Power Station, Bluewaters Phase III & IV and the refurbished Muja A/B—meet global best practice to maximise energy efficiency and minimise carbon emissions?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

I am advised that the energy efficiency and carbon emissions for the proposed new coal fired generators — Coolimba Power Station, Bluewaters Phase III & IV and the refurbished Muja A/B were considered as part of the environmental approvals decisions by the previous Minister for Environment, Hon Donna Faragher, in 2010.

I understand that as part of the approvals process for the Coolimba Power Station, the Bluewaters Phase III & IV and the refurbished Muja A/B, the then Minister required the proponents to prepare and submit a Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program. This program requires the proponent to achieve continuous improvement in net greenhouse gas emissions through periodic review and adoption of advances in technology and process management.

The Greenhouse Gas Abatement Programs are open to annual review and to the review being publicly available. They will also be subject to a review by an independent specialist every two years, who will determine whether or not they are undertaking best practices.