

JOONDALUP RAIL LINE — YANCHEP EXTENSION

**610. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Premier:**

I refer to the federal government's Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport inquiry last week, at which representatives of Infrastructure Australia specifically stated that they had not received any business case from the state government despite the Premier's media release on 21 August stating, and I quote —

... the Joondalup line extension to Yanchep and the Thornlie Line Extension—have now been submitted to Infrastructure Australia.

Who is telling the truth—the Premier or the independent and highly regarded Infrastructure Australia?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

Our approach as a government is to engage very comprehensively with Infrastructure Australia and to make sure that we seek as much federal support for infrastructure projects in Western Australia—that is our approach. Members opposite might recall, somewhat to their chagrin, that shortly after the election we engaged with the commonwealth government and it supported funding important road and rail projects in Western Australia when the Liberal Party said that that would not happen. The Liberal Party was crestfallen; it was devastated. Members opposite were the saddest looking people I have ever seen when this state government secured hundreds of millions—billions of dollars of infrastructure spend in Western Australia. They were absolutely devastated. They were dragging themselves around the building looking shocked and appalled that a state Labor government could get good outcomes out of the commonwealth. We are engaging with Infrastructure Australia. We will ensure that many projects are put before Infrastructure Australia for federal funding. I am not aware of the specific circumstances that the member referred to. The relevant minister is not here today, but I will ensure that when she returns she addresses the issue the member has just raised.