

CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY — PARIS AGREEMENT

567. Hon ROBIN SCOTT to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

- (1) Andrew Burrell stated in an article in *The Australian* online of 3 June 2019 —
Mr McGowan said last week that Western Australia may have to go it alone on climate policy unless the Morrison government took greater action to meet Australia's commitments under the 2016 Paris agreement on greenhouse gas emissions.
Is this a correct report?
- (2) Has a study been conducted by the state government on the possible scope of unilateral action on climate policy by it and the cost of such action; and, if so will the Leader of the House table that study on behalf of the Premier?
- (3) Can the Premier confirm that the Paris Agreement dated 12 December 2015 makes no mention of carbon dioxide?
- (4) Can the Premier confirm that article 28 of the said Paris Agreement provides that at any time after three years from the date on which this agreement has entered into force for a party, that party may withdraw from this agreement by giving written notification to the secretary-general?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

The wording in the last part of part (4), is slightly different in the copy of the question that has been signed off by the Premier. I do not think it materially changes the answer. I think it just goes to the title of the person, so I will provide the answer.

- (1)–(4) The state government's long-held position is that the federal government needs to provide national leadership on reducing emissions to deliver a consistent policy across the country. Although the federal government's target of reducing emissions by 28 per cent by 2030 is supported, it has failed to outline how it will successfully achieve this. The state government's number one priority is to strengthen the economy and create jobs, and this means providing certainty to industry to help it create jobs. Our position is not to introduce an enforceable state emissions reduction target or renewable energy target. However, we will continue to work with industry cooperatively on measures to reduce emissions.