

PILBARA UNDERGROUND POWER PROJECT

**73. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the Minister for Energy:**

I refer to the Pilbara underground power project.

- (1) What was the original budget cost of the project?
- (2) Has there been any escalation in the project cost; and, if so, what is the amount of the escalation?
- (3) What is the estimated final cost of the project?
- (4) How much has been allocated to the project through the royalties for regions program?

**Hon PETER COLLIER replied:**

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

- (1) The original budget cost was \$130 million.
- (2) Yes, there has been a cost escalation associated with the Karratha elements of the project. Horizon Power is currently working through the scale of the cost escalation with the main contractor, O'Donnell Griffin, and is also seeking independent engineering advice.
- (3) An estimate of the final cost of the project will be available following the review described above.
- (4) The royalties for regions program has allocated \$100 million.