

DOMESTIC GAS RESERVATION POLICY — WAITSIA PROJECT

1417. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the minister representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade:

I refer to freedom of information application 20230048 received by my office on 10 November 2023, which granted access to document 6, a briefing note to the office of the Premier from the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation. It states in reference to the former Premier and Minister for State Development, Hon Mark McGowan, according to my notes —

On 27 November 2018 you supported the export of Waitsia Gas from its project in the MidWest on the basis the domestic market is well-supplied (59-078088 refers) ...

- (1) In what form did the previous Premier support the export of Waitsia gas in 2018, which was two years before announcing the exemption of Waitsia from the state domestic gas reservation policy on 17 August 2020?
- (2) Was the Premier or the government approached in 2018 to provide such an exemption; and, if so, precisely when?
- (3) Will the minister table document 59-078088 to the house to save time?
- (4) Or, will the minister waste time by requiring me to FOI document 59-078088 should he refuse to table it to the house?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

It is not even a Thursday! I thank the Leader of the Opposition for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(2) Standing orders allow for questions to only be asked of a minister and their responsibilities. Questions relating to the former Premier, including any approaches made to the former Premier, cannot be answered by the current Premier.
- (3)–(4) The honourable member may make a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act 1992 to ensure the right of third parties to be consulted is upheld.