

SYNERGY — PRIVATE COMPANY PAYMENTS

166. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Energy:

For each of the financial years 2020–21, 2021–22, 2022–23 and 2023–24 to date I ask the following.

- (1) What payments has Synergy made directly to private companies and not through the Australian Energy Market Operator to reduce power consumption during periods of high electricity demand?
- (2) What requests has Synergy made to private companies to reduce power consumption during periods of high electricity demand?
- (3) Which requests made in (2) were for reduction without compensation to be paid?
- (4) What was the total supplementary reserve capacity payments paid by Synergy and the whole of government for the period 1 December 2023 to 13 March 2024?

Hon DARREN WEST replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Energy, I provide the following answer.

- (1) Synergy has not made any direct payments to private companies to reduce power consumption during periods of high electricity demand.
- (2)–(3) Nil.
- (4) The Australian Energy Market Operator manages the supplementary reserve capacity, and the cost is allocated between all market participants as part of wider market fees. AEMO does not provide a specific line-item charge for supplementary reserve capacity.