

GRIFFIN COAL — LIQUIDATOR

1241. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the minister representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade:

I refer to my question without notice 1214 of 12 October 2023 regarding consultants engaged and paid by government in relation to the insolvent Griffin Coal Mining Company, and to the revelation that Preston Consulting was engaged to report to the government on the rehabilitation of Griffin Coal sites.

- (1) As at 16 October 2023, who or whom is responsible for the rehabilitation costs associated with the previous and current operations of the insolvent Griffin Coal?
- (2) Given the contract was to last only 11 weeks from 19 June 2023 making it expire around 4 September, was the work completed, and did Preston Consulting present a report to the government?
- (3) If Griffin Coal is wound up under its current owners with the rehabilitation unfunded, will the state government become responsible for the cost of rehabilitation?
- (4) Is that cost expected to be in the hundreds of millions or billions of dollars?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the Leader of the Opposition for some notice of the question.

- (1) It is the Griffin Coal Mining Company.
- (2) Yes.
- (3)–(4) The Griffin Coal Mining Company is responsible for the mine site rehabilitation and the cost of that rehabilitation. I will not speculate on the future of the Griffin Coal Mining Company, but I want to reassure Parliament that this government is committed to ensuring that successful rehabilitation occurs across the state's mining industry.