

ENERGY TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY

Statement by Minister for Energy

MR W.J. JOHNSTON (Cannington — Minister for Energy) [12.05 pm]: I rise to update the house on work underway in the energy sector to support our transition to a greener, cleaner energy future. Earlier this month, I released the two-year progress report of the *Distributed energy resources roadmap*. The road map was launched in April 2020 as part of the McGowan government's energy transformation strategy. It sets out the actions we must take to meet the challenges of an evolving energy landscape, while keeping the system stable and prices affordable.

Two years on and the road map is on track. Major milestones have been met, and a number of important additions have been made. Most significantly, we have implemented new requirements for rooftop solar. The new requirements leverage recent technological improvements to allow for the management of solar output in emergencies, while supporting continued rooftop solar uptake. We have also launched the electric vehicle action plan, which is a plan to integrate electric vehicles within WA's power system. Additionally, federal and state government funding was secured for WA's flagship community virtual power plant, Project Symphony, and 13 community batteries were installed. Western Australians have enthusiastically embraced distributed energy resources, which include rooftop solar systems, batteries and electric vehicles. One in three WA households has rooftop solar, which is expected to rise to 50 per cent by 2030. The rapid uptake has created challenges and opportunities for the way our power system produces, manages and consumes electricity.

The *Distributed energy resources roadmap* continues to guide our progress towards a greener, cleaner energy future with more renewable energy at its heart. Energy Policy WA, Western Power, Horizon Power, Synergy and the Australian Energy Market Operator are working together to implement the road map. I thank them for their excellent work.