

GRIFFIN COAL — KPMG AND AD ASTRA CORPORATE ADVISORY

966. 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 934 asked yesterday, 30 August 2023, on the appointment of both KPMG and Ad Astra Corporate Advisory to advise the government on the problems at the insolvent Griffin Coal that have resulted in a blowout in liquidator grants from this government now totalling \$27.3 million to the receivers and managers.

- (1) What is the current and expected total cost to the government for receiving this advice from each company?
- (2) Has either company provided an estimate of the total public funding that will be required to bring this disaster to a solution or end point and; if so, what was that estimate?
- (3) Has either company provided a forward projection of income and cost of production for Griffin Coal; and, if so, what were those projections?
- (4) Has either company offered a permanent solution to the Griffin Coal problem; and, if so, what was proposed?
- (5) If no to (2), (3) or (4), why not and what on earth is the government paying them for?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the Leader of the Opposition for some notice of the question. It was quite a long question. However, I do have an answer for the member.

- (1)–(5) The value of the KPMG contract is \$240 000. To date, the state government has paid \$286 869, including GST, for Ad Astra Corporate Advisory’s services. KPMG has been engaged to provide advice to government on funding matters and mining operations in order to ensure a sound basis for all government disbursements and assure all parties that the mine is running efficiently. Ad Astra Corporate Advisory has been engaged to assist the government with the discussions with commercial parties, with a view to facilitating a commercial agreement with Griffin Coal’s customers based on paying a price for coal that supports the stable operation of the mine. Those discussions remain ongoing. The government will continue to act as necessary to ensure energy system security and certainty for the Collie workforce and community.