

GRIFFIN COAL — LIQUIDATOR

1018. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the minister representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade:

I refer to the answer to question without notice 991, asked yesterday, on the appointment of administrators and receivers to the insolvent Griffin Coal in September 2022 in which the government advised that the new “process agreement” contained additional terms to the previous financial assistance agreement.

- (1) Will the government please provide a list of the additional terms in the process agreement?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) What additional reporting requirements have been added to the process agreement?
- (4) Does the process agreement require any repayment of the grants?
- (5) Why were the original financial assistance agreements not process agreements with additional, and possibly adequate, terms and conditions?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

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

- (1)–(3) The process agreement between the state and Griffin’s receivers is confidential and commercially sensitive.
- (4) It is the government’s intention to recover the funds provided to Griffin’s managers and receivers as part of any longer term commercial arrangements. It is intended that the payments will be recovered from additional revenue as a result of increased prices. Treasury has appointed Ad Astra Corporate Advisory to assist the government with discussions with commercial parties. The discussions remain ongoing.
- (5) The original financial assistance agreements were short-term agreements to maintain coal supply. The new financial assistance agreement, termed the process agreement, was drafted to align with the 12-month extension of the state agreement with Griffin Coal, with the possibility of a further 12-month extension.