

GOLD CORPORATION — SAM WALSH

155. Ms L. METTAM to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I have a supplementary question. If the minister could watch question time from Canada, why could he not make himself available by Zoom to answer these very serious questions about the scandal surrounding the Perth Mint?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please!

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON replied:

I actually know that the government made itself completely available. In fact, Jason Waters did a whole series of media interviews. Not only that, but also I just spent an hour over at Dumas House answering 30 questions from the media. I know that the Liberal Party has changed. The Liberal Party used to support state development in Western Australia. Now it is opposed. Every Minister for Mines and Petroleum in the history of this state has had international engagement with our customers and international investors. The first time that has been criticised is when the member for Vasse became the Leader of the Liberal Party. I am going to give you a piece of advice, member for Vasse. It does not matter how many times you will get quoted in the media, at the end of the day you need to have respect. You need to be respected by the business community. I am respected by the business community. If you continue to attack Western Australia's efforts to engage with our international customers, you will not be respected.