

GRIFFIN COAL — KPMG AND AD ASTRA CORPORATE ADVISORY

**1070. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the minister representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade:**

I refer to my questions without notice 966 and 976 of 31 August 2023 on the appointment of Ad Astra to advise the government on the problems at the insolvent Griffin Coal.

- (1) Why is the Treasury contract with Ad Astra deemed to be “no fixed term” and solely reliant “on the issues that arise and the level of cooperation of the counterparties”?
- (2) Given the substantive reporting interface to government with Ad Astra, why is the KPMG–Griffin contract of a fixed monetary value of \$240 000?
- (3) As at 18 September 2023, how much of the \$240 000 has been paid to KPMG?
- (4) Is there an option within the KPMG–Griffin contract to receive additional payments beyond the \$240 000 cap?
- (5) If yes to (4), how is the option or clause activated, and by whom?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the Leader of the Opposition for some notice of the question. It feels like *Groundhog Day!*

- (1) There is significant uncertainty as to when negotiations with the counterparties can be resolved to the satisfaction of the government. The terms under which Ad Astra is contracted best manages this uncertainty.
- (2) The value of the contract with KPMG reflects the work it was commissioned for at the time.
- (3) Nil.
- (4)–(5) The contract can be varied by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet if required.