

SHARKS — HAZARD MITIGATION — DRUM LINES — OVERSEAS CONTRACT

**989. Ms L. METTAM to the Minister for Fisheries:**

I refer to reports on Saturday, 24 November that highlight that shark drum lines for the south west will be manufactured in Spain.

- (1) Why has the minister awarded a contract to an overseas company at the expense of innovative Western Australian companies?
- (2) Can the minister confirm that this is yet another example of the McGowan government's failed local content policy?

**Mr D.J. KELLY replied:**

(1)–(2) Even I am surprised by that question. Honestly!

**Mr R.S. Love** interjected.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** Colin, will you just be quiet for a minute and do not interject.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, call the member by his correct title, please.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** Member for Moore, will you just be quiet for minute; you might learn something.

The member for Vasse spent months campaigning to get us to trial the New South Wales technology here in WA. She spent months telling us that we should trial that technology here in WA.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members!

**Mr V.A. Catania** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for North West Central, I call you to order for the first time.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** For a range of reasons, we are trialling the New South Wales technology here in WA. But the member for Vasse probably does not know—I think she does but she is just being mischievous—that the technology that is used in New South Wales is not manufactured in WA. It is only available overseas.

**Ms L. Mettam** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Vasse.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** The local supplier who contacted us last week did not offer to provide us with the same technology that New South Wales is using; it has offered an alternative system. It does not make the technology that it has been utilising. For once, the member for Vasse should make some sense on this issue. She campaigned for us to trial the New South Wales drum lines here in WA and that is exactly what we are doing. Unfortunately, that technology is not manufactured in Australia. The member for Vasse makes these comments on this issue one day and she says something else another day. It is all about getting her face in the media or her name in print. It has nothing to do —

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** It's not saving people from shark attacks. That's what it's about.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Scarborough.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** If it were really about saving people from shark attacks, the member for Scarborough would embrace the science and promote the personal shark deterrents that have been tested by the University of Western Australia and Flinders University. To date, nearly 2 500 Western Australians have purchased a subsidised personal shark deterrent, despite the member for Vasse going on radio and saying that they are like waving a toothpick at a shark. If the member for Vasse were serious about this, she would promote the programs that we have on offer, she would support some of the other initiatives that we and Surfing WA have come up with and she would stop asking ridiculous questions about the drum lines that we are going to trial in January.

**Mrs A.K. Hayden** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Darling Range, I call you to order for the first time.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** These are the drum lines she asked for, and they are the drum lines she is going to get.