

CONSTRUCTION, FORESTRY, MINING AND ENERGY UNION, 36-HOUR WORKING WEEK
CAMPAIGN

59. Mrs C.L. EDWARDES to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection:

I ask a supplementary question. Given the minister's lack of commitment to and awareness - or total ignorance - of what is happening before the Cole royal commission, will he give a guarantee that the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union, in its 36-hour campaigns, will not be allowed to resort to intimidatory and retribution tactics?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

That was a political statement, not a question. I totally reject the first part of the question. I would have thought the answer I gave indicated that I was aware of the evidence that has been given to the commission and that I had looked into the matter. A range of evidence has been given to the royal commission amounting to thousands of pages and I cannot provide a comprehensive answer on the matter in a few minutes. However, the member asked about a key issue with the police evidence, and I gave an answer.

Any intimidating behaviour will be treated very seriously by this Government; it will take the most appropriate action it can. When the member was the minister, similar activities were taking place. This Government will be more proactive than she was in dealing with problems when they arise.