

LNG JOBS TASK FORCE

782. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Premier:

I refer to the Premier's media statement dated 14 March 2018 and titled "Dedicated jobs taskforce set to turn WA into a global LNG hub".

- (1) How many times has the task force met since it was established?
- (2) Who are the members of this task force?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

- (1)–(2) I could not tell the member the exact details of how many times the task force has met. From memory, the members of the task force include—I do not know whether there have been any meetings without me—me and representatives from Chevron, Shell Australia, Woodside Energy Ltd and Santos Ltd, and also representatives from the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association and UnionsWA. That is the membership of the task force.

The reasoning behind the task force, in a nutshell, is that our state is one of the world's great LNG exporters. The industry was built over the last 35 years or so. Currently, we are second to Qatar, but, in due course, I expect that we will surpass Qatar. We want to make sure that we have not just those oil and gas majors operating from here, but also a lot of those secondary industries established here to a greater degree, in particular service and maintenance companies; that is, companies like Halliburton and Schlumberger that are very much focused on Aberdeen and Houston. We will create the opportunities here for them to establish, so we have a much broader and more robust industry. On top of that, I would like to see more training and university courses related to LNG, so we maximise the benefits of the industry in Western Australia.

That is the point of the exercise. I must say that the companies have treated this initiative at a very high level and are very keen to make sure that it succeeds. In particular, I must say that Chevron is very keen to make sure that this initiative succeeds. I want to work with them to make sure that it succeeds.