

FOREST PRODUCTS COMMISSION — TWO-TIER KARRI FORESTS — HARVESTING

**114. Mr D.T. REDMAN to the Minister for Forestry:**

I have a supplementary question. Can the minister defend again throwing uncertainty into an industry when it least needs it, following his failed nationalisation of the lobster industry?

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

The price of timber is not zero dollars a kilo. The industry is doing very well.

**Mr D.T. Redman:** So why make this decision? Why intervene?

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Warren–Blackwood, I have given you enough warnings. I call you to order for the first time.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** As I said to the member for Warren–Blackwood, if he had listened to the answer and he had not just read his pre-written supplementary question, he would know that Parkside is investing significant amounts of money in mills in WA. For it to purchase Auswest and NTP is the best thing that has happened to the industry for a very long time. Both those operators, both those mills, could have been closed by now.

**Mr D.T. Redman** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I call you to order for the second time, member for Warren–Blackwood. Minister, we are running out of time.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** We have a government that is interested in jobs in this industry. We have a government that is interested in seeing this industry have a future. We have managed to attract a significant new player into the industry. Rather than the member sitting there and making glib comments, he should be talking up the industry, not talking it down.