

ROYALTIES FOR REGIONS — GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BALANCE

**130. Hon SUE ELLERY to the parliamentary secretary representing the Treasurer:**

Will the government remain committed to the royalties for regions policy as it currently stands—that is, expenditure of \$2.8 billion above and beyond the value of regional expenditure currently in the forward estimates—if the general government operating balance is required to move into deficit?

**Hon BARRY HOUSE replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The impact of the royalties for regions policy, together with the government's other election commitments and the significant parameter movements experienced in recent months, will be disclosed in the 2008-09 midyear review to be released later this month.