

STATE AGREEMENT ACTS — AMENDMENTS

**68. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Premier:**

The Treasurer has just reiterated that he thinks corporate Western Australia wants to contribute and understands that it has to participate in the heavy lifting required to fix the budget. The Premier has ruled out unilaterally changing state agreements in this place. Does the Premier intend to seek any amendments to legacy state agreements with BHP and Rio Tinto to ensure that they reflect modern business practices so they participate in the heavy lifting to fix the budget?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

I thank the Leader of the National Party. She clearly has difficulty with our mining industry. I mean, every single question time since we have been back—I think this is now the fifth—the National Party launches an attack on the mining industry. This shows that anyone who works in mining in Western Australia should be very frightened of a coalition government being elected, because the Liberal Party, by implication, because of its very close relationship with the National Party, is a threat to mining jobs in Western Australia! The National Party cannot let it go. I am looking back at the member for Pilbara. The ghost of Brendon Grylls clearly still lives in the Leader of the National Party! She has not learnt that people who work in mining do not hate the industry. The former government had eight and a half years to unilaterally change state agreement acts had it wanted. It did not.

**Ms M.J. Davies** interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Hold on; listen to this bit: it had eight and a half years to unilaterally change state mining agreements and it did not. Now, in the second sitting week of this government, the National Party is demanding state agreements be ripped up.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members; Premier! There is a wall of noise from both sides. I just want to hear the Premier's answer.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** As Premier and Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade in Western Australia, I am not going to rip up state agreement acts—okay? That is our position. That is what the National Party is seeking because it cannot give it up! It has really gotten to it. Are we going to go for the next four years —

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I call the member for North West Central for the first time.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Are we going to go for the next four years where every single question time, the Leader of the National Party is reliving the 2013 election? I mean, you need to let it go! Brendon is not here anymore! He is not here! The happiest people in this place that Brendon is not here is not the Labor Party, it is the Liberal Party!