

RENEWABLE ENERGY — OFFSHORE WIND ZONES

618. Hon SOPHIA MOERMOND to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Energy:

Federal Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Chris Bowen, has started a consultation process to declare several Australian coastal areas offshore wind zones, including in the Indian Ocean off Perth and Bunbury.

- (1) Has the minister met with his federal counterpart to discuss the proposal; and, if so, when?
- (2) How do offshore wind zones fit into the Western Australian government's energy transformation strategy?
- (3) Will the government commit to extensive community consultation with businesses and communities prior to the establishment of any such zones?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided by the Minister for Energy.

- (1) No.
- (2) Offshore wind is likely to be one of a number of renewable energy sources that may seek to connect to the state's main grid to support industry's demand for renewable electricity. As such, it will be considered in the state government's energy transition and power system planning processes.
- (3) The consultation is a matter for the federal Minister for Climate Change and Energy.