Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 12 March 2024] p597c-598a Hon Dr Steve Thomas; Hon Sue Ellery

GRIFFIN COAL — COLLIE

93. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the minister representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade:

I refer to my question without notice 1003 of 17 November 2021, which asked —

(5) As Griffin Coal is indirectly responsible for the production of a significant share of power to WA's main grid, what is the ... contingency plan should Griffin cease operational production?

To which the minister responded —

- (5) This matter has been reviewed by government and there is considered to be no risk to electricity supply should the Griffin Coal mine cease operational production.
- (1) Does the minister stand by this unequivocal, whole-of-government response that there will be no risk to WA's energy supply should Griffin Coal cease operations?
- (2) If yes to (1), why is the government spending \$260 million of taxpayer-funded money on an insolvent and foreign-owned company?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I answer on behalf of the minister representing and provide an answer on behalf of the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade.

(1)–(2) The state government has allocated up to \$220 million to support continued operations at Griffin Coal, secure the electricity system and protect Collie jobs. In addition, the state government is investing billions of dollars in new renewable energy projects, battery storage and transmission infrastructure to transition and strengthen our electricity system over the coming decades.