

METRONET — ARMADALE RAIL LINE — SHUTDOWN

**816. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:**

I thank the minister for her answer to my question on Tuesday. On what grounds are her claims that the proposed 18-month Armadale line shutdown is the most efficient—for example, how many periodic shutdowns would otherwise be necessary—and the most cost effective?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

Shutting the Armadale line once will provide passengers with greater certainty while works are undertaken as opposed to multiple shutdowns over a significantly longer period. Multiple shutdowns would lengthen the associated projects significantly and cause additional project costs and demands on resourcing. They would also cause greater disruption to the entire corridor. It is important to note that there are significantly fewer safety risks in constructing on what will effectively become a greenfields site.