

NATURE POSITIVE — COMMONWEALTH REFORM

**106. Mr R.S. LOVE to the Premier:**

Has the Premier or any member of his government been briefed by the commonwealth regarding proposals in the Albanese Labor government's nature positive plan that appear to be shrouded in secrecy and raise grave concerns amongst industry sources about their potential impact on the Western Australian economy?

**Mr R.H. COOK replied:**

I thank the member for the question. As the member knows, our government has been forthright in its reform of environmental approvals, in particular green energy approvals. We are engaging with the commonwealth on an ongoing basis to understand the potential impact of any planned legislation on Western Australia, and members would expect us to do that. We always work closely with the commonwealth, something that the opposition never did in government. As a result, we have been able to highlight the need for thorough consultation on the detail of the legislation and the implementation of associated regulations, guidelines and policies. As I said, my government is working hard to streamline our own approval processes and we continue to emphasise the importance of reduced duplication and a streamlined interface between commonwealth and state processes. My government will maintain its advocacy that the needs and interests of WA industry need to be appropriately considered as part of these commonwealth reforms.

As we know, the commonwealth government is pursuing this mandate thoroughly. As a result, I am sure that when it seeks to put in place the legislation, it will be done on the basis of a firm understanding of the needs of the community, the environment and industry.