

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, INTEGRATION OF SERVICES, COST SAVINGS

524. Hon C L Edwardes to the Deputy Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Energy

- (1) I refer to the Report of the Taskforce Established to Review the Machinery of Western Australia's Government and ask what cost savings are to result through the integration of services?
- (2) How are these cost savings to be realised?
- (3) Will the abolition of Public Sector positions be incorporated into the realisation of the cost savings?
- (4) If so, how many positions have been identified for abolition?
- (5) Will the vacancy of public sector positions be incorporated into the realisation of the cost savings?
- (6) If so, how many positions have been identified to be retained as vacant?
- (7) What classification levels are the positions identified for abolition?
- (8) What classification levels are the positions identified for vacancy?

Mr RIPPER replied:

As at 27 June 2001:

Office of Energy

- (1) The Perth International Centre for the Application of Solar Energy (CASE) is to be integrated into the Sustainable Energy Development Agency (WA) that is to be established within the Office of Energy. CASE programs will be reprioritised within existing budget parameters and administered by SEDA (WA) staff. Additional funds have been included in the budget for the election commitment to establish SEDA (WA). No cost savings will arise from this integration, however improved outcomes are expected from the integration.

The Office of Energy is unaware at this time of any cost savings that will be delivered through the integration of the Technical and Safety Division into another agency, as planning for this integration is at a preliminary stage.

- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) No.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) No.
- (6)-(8) Not applicable

Minerals and Energy Research Institute of WA

- (1)-(8) Nil

International Centre for the Application of Solar Energy

- (1) The International Centre for Application of Solar Energy (CASE) is to be absorbed into the Office of Energy / Sustainable Energy Development Agency. Cost savings may be achieved in the administrative and government reporting function.
- (2) Possible reduction in staff providing support functions.
- (3) CASE has no public sector employees, but employee numbers are likely to be reduced, in order to reduce operating costs and meet the lower Government appropriation for CASE.
- (4) At this stage no decision has been made on staffing levels or positions that will be abolished.
- (5) N/A – no existing public sector positions exist.
- (6)-(8) Not applicable

Gold Corporation

- (1) Gold Corporation is a self-funding commercial operation and is not part of the service integration process.
- (2)-(8) Not applicable.

Office of the Auditor General

(1)-(8) Not applicable

WA Treasury Corporation

(1)-(8) Not applicable

Office of Gas Access Regulation

(1) Cost savings that may result through the integration of services cannot be assessed at this time as the Machinery of Government Taskforce Recommendation 44 to create a statutory position of Economic Regulator is still under development.

(2)-(8) Not applicable.

Treasury

(1)-(2) Cost savings will emerge through more effective and efficient delivery of services. However, those savings have not been quantified at this stage.

(3) Yes.

(4) Two, at this time.

(5) It is unlikely there will be any vacancies.

(6) Not applicable.

(7) Class 1 and Level 9.

(8) Not applicable.