

ROYALTIES FOR REGIONS — TARIFF EQUALISATION CONTRIBUTION

222. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Treasurer:

I have a supplementary question. The Treasurer will not rule it out. Which existing royalties for regions projects does he intend to cut to find the \$600 million in savings required to fund the tariff equalisation contribution and the \$200 million in the tariff adjustment payments over the forward estimates?

Mr B.S. WYATT replied:

I do not think the Leader of the National Party listened. It is not something that was part of the election campaign. To fund it from the budget as opposed to funding it from Synergy bills will occur when I can find room in the budget to fund it because ultimately there is a cost.

Ms M.J. Davies: Will that be royalties for regions?

Mr B.S. WYATT: Whether it is from that pot of money or from my six-year-old daughter's toy dog, it has to be funded in some way. This is the problem we have.

Ms M.J. Davies interjected.

Mr B.S. WYATT: Time and again, the Leader of the National Party has this view that royalties for regions is coming from some magical —

Point of Order

Dr A.D. BUTI: Mr Speaker, I am battling to hear the Treasurer because of the constant interjections from the person asking the question.

The SPEAKER: It is not a point of order, but the Leader of the National Party will keep quiet for the rest of the answer.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr B.S. WYATT: I make the point that we have a budget. Whether it is funded from one particular revenue stream or the other, it still has an impact on the budget. We could pull that off Synergy bills, which is what we promised to do in 2013 if we won, but we did not win. We all know the result of that election. However, if in the event I can find room in the budget, I will.