

PERTH FREIGHT LINK — FREIGHT CHARGE

**645. Mr P.C. TINLEY to the Minister for Transport:**

I have a supplementary question. Is it not a fact that this freight charge—toll—component of the minister’s plan for Perth Freight Link was not included in the Infrastructure Australia submission and is further proof that not enough planning has gone into this project and the government is unnecessarily risking billions of dollars of taxpayers’ money?

**Mr D.C. NALDER replied:**

This Infrastructure Australia report shows that if we add that back in as a net benefit, it will cost less because it will push up the benefit–cost ratio.

**Mr P.C. Tinley** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Willagee!

**Mr D.C. NALDER:** Right at this point in time on a conservative P90 estimate, which pushes the budget out beyond what the federal government budgets for which is P50 and which I just explained—the Leader of the Opposition nodded—there is no cost blowout. If we take into consideration the freight charge and we can create a win–win situation that allows infrastructure to be built that the community can benefit from, particularly with the removal of traffic lights to make it safer on our roads for not only truck drivers, but also the broader community, we will create a win–win situation. If we establish a freight charge that they benefit from and it reduces the cost, the benefit–cost ratio goes up. It will be a better outcome. Goodness me! I hope there are better questions than that.

*Withdrawal of Remark*

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** I rise regarding standing order 92. During question time, there was an exchange across the chamber from the Minister for Health to the member for Cannington, which I believe impugned the member for Cannington’s reputation.

Several members interjected.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** Hear me out. It is now being tweeted and reported by the media. I think it is an appropriate time for the Minister for Health —

**The SPEAKER:** If you want to take an objection to words spoken, it has to be taken instantaneously; you cannot do it later, member for Mandurah. That is the story.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** On that point of order, unfortunately, modern technology is now reporting the words of the Minister for Health. They are now in the media and there is an opportunity for the minister to apologise for his comments.

**The SPEAKER:** I do not want to hear anyone now. The objection has to be made at the time. Unfortunately, I cannot deal with these things but if the minister wants to apologise, I never heard what he said.

**Dr K.D. HAMES:** I do not want to apologise because I meant them, but I did use the word “prick” and I withdraw.

**The SPEAKER:** Right, that has been withdrawn.

**Mr W.J. JOHNSTON:** I draw attention to the fact that a member is not allowed to withdraw with qualification.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members! I did not take it as a qualification; I understood that you withdrew it, minister. Did you withdraw that statement?

**Dr K.D. Hames:** Yes.

**The SPEAKER:** Thank you; it is withdrawn.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:**Members! You will end up going for a rest, and you will be going with him!