

**BAY VILLAGE WORKER CAMP — WOODSIDE ENERGY — KARRATHA —  
LOCAL PARTICIPATION PLAN**

*Standing Orders Suspension — Motion*

**MR V.A. CATANIA (North West Central)** [4.11 pm] — without notice: I move —

That so much of standing orders be suspended as is necessary to enable the following motion to be moved forthwith —

That this house condemns the McGowan government for today refusing to table the local participation plan for Woodside’s Bay Village, despite taking credit in a 1 June 2018 media statement for launching the document.

*Standing Orders Suspension — Amendment to Motion*

**MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah — Leader of the House)** [4.12 pm]: The government is happy to hear this debate subject to the following addition to the motion. I move —

To insert after “forthwith” the following —

, subject to the debate being limited to 15 minutes for government members and 15 minutes for non-government members

Amendment put and passed.

*Standing Orders Suspension — Motion, as Amended*

**The SPEAKER:** Members, as this is a motion without notice to suspend standing orders, we need an absolute majority in order to succeed. If I hear a dissentient voice, I will be required to divide the Assembly.

Question put and passed with an absolute majority.

*Motion*

**MR V.A. CATANIA (North West Central)** [4.13 pm]: I move the motion. We have here the failure of the Premier to be open and transparent, which he has not been in letting this house and, more importantly, the people of Karratha know what he has signed with Woodside. I want to know who runs the town. I will come back to that at the end of my time. Who runs the town? Is it the company, the people of Western Australia or the government of Western Australia? The Premier made the announcement on 1 June in hand with Woodside. The Premier is taking credit for the local participation plan and the local jobs portal. The Premier, the member for Pilbara and the Minister for Lands all know what is in this document, but the people who are most impacted are the people of Karratha, who do not know what is in it. The Premier stated that it is all about job creation and securing the future of Karratha. He has made it clear that local jobs are his number one priority. He needs to be honest with the people of Karratha. What does this local participation plan have in it? We need to know. The Premier has said that 85 per cent of local content requirement will be placed on the village. How will this be accounted for? How often? Who will judge whether Woodside has met its targets? What penalties exist for noncompliance? How does the Premier intend to account for the lost economic opportunity as a result of killing off small business and operators who are standing, willing and able to meet Woodside’s needs? What will be in the 700-bed camp? Will there be a wet mess? Will there be a gym? Will there be other amenities that Karratha now has since growing to become a city? The following are comments from the Mayor of the City of Karratha, who states —

“Housing workers in such a segregated manner is old school thinking and will result in poor outcomes for the community.

That was said by the Mayor of Karratha—the person who went to the people of Karratha and came back with 80 per cent of the population against a 700-bed camp. We want the Premier to be open and transparent and to make sure that he puts this participation plan out in the open for the people of Karratha and the people in this Parliament to scrutinise. As I asked earlier: who runs Karratha? The member for Pilbara has stated that the day of the announcement about a 700-bed camp being based in Karratha was the best day of his life. However, we now have further proof that this local participation plan needs to be open and transparent, to be laid on the table and to be scrutinised by this Parliament and the people of Karratha. Why? It is in light of comments made by the member for Pilbara as follows —

“These are the companies that set up these towns, these are the companies that run these towns.

**Mr K.J.J. Michel** interjected.

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Speaker

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**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** That is a quote from the member for Pilbara. He continues —

“these are the companies that invest in our towns.”

We all know now who runs Karratha. It is definitely not the Premier; it is not the McGowan Labor government. It is clearly the companies that run these towns. “The best day of my life” was a quote from the member for Pilbara. That is why the Premier needs to be open and transparent and to table the local participation plan so that we can see exactly how he has done over the people of Karratha and allowed these companies to run these towns as they please. Clearly, that is the mindset of the member for Pilbara, who represents Karratha. Clearly, that reflects the Premier’s inability to table a very important document—the local participation plan—so that Parliament can scrutinise it.

**MR D.T. REDMAN (Warren–Blackwood)** [4.18 pm]: I want to contribute to this debate too, because let us look at the decision. The government has made a decision to support a mining company in Karratha to build a 700-bed work camp right next to the town. The company said in its launch that it will support local jobs and a participation plan, including some sort of website portal, and that local opportunities will come from that. The Premier launched into it by saying that it will pave the way for gas to come onshore from Browse and Scarborough gas fields. Not once was it in the application that that is why this work camp is needed. The reason is not even in the application for the company to have the work camp, yet the Premier is using it as a basis for his argument. He has, however, conceded that it is for the construction and operational workforce. It is not just for construction, during which a lot of people are needed and then go away; it is also for operations. It will be there for a long, long period.

What will the community get out of it? What will the local benefits be? Firstly, the Premier has said the village will be constructed with 85 per cent participation. Can members imagine what the people of Karratha think about that? This village will undermine their businesses in their community by bringing in a fly in, fly out workforce rather than using the current accommodation or other providers in town. The government has said, “Oh, by the way, when we build it, 85 per cent of people will participate in its construction and there will be 30-odd long-term operational jobs.” I am sure the community would rather not have the village than have a high level of participation in its construction.

At its launch, the Premier went out strongly saying, “I support Woodside’s commitment to local participation; its participation plan.” Woodside—the company the member for Pilbara has said runs these towns—has committed to a local participation plan. We know where the balance of power sits up in Karratha. It does not sit with this government or the member for Pilbara; it sits with the companies that are making decisions and having the government roll over to have its belly tickled on the issues.

What about transparency? This is a big chance for the Premier to put on the table for the people of Karratha and regional Western Australia exactly what the negotiating parameters were—put on the table these participation plans. He had the chance to do exactly that in question time today in response to the member for North West Central, but he did not. So are these participation plans confidential? Are they something to be seen only by the companies and department for state development?

The media release of 1 June quotes the Minister for Lands as saying —

Now we have these participation plans in place for local jobs in Karratha, as well as the Local Jobs Portal, the State will enter into negotiations for a land lease at Bay Village.

The government is entering into negotiations for a land lease at Bay Village now that the participation plans are in place. So what has the government traded off or sought from the company to now start negotiating for a land use agreement for Bay Village? What is it? The Premier can answer that question today by tabling the participation plans. He can put the participation plan on the table and say, “This is what we’ve done. This is what we were able to get out of Woodside before we started negotiating the land use agreement.” Once that negotiation lease is settled, that is it; they do not go back to the table. We know they do not go back to the table with these companies, because we know what happens with state agreements. Once it happens, they have the government. Has the member for Pilbara seen the participation plans? He is out there spruiking the message of the companies that run this town. Have you seen the plans, member for Pilbara?

**Mr K. Michel** interjected.

**Mr D.T. REDMAN:** Clearly, the member for Pilbara member has not seen the plans. I hope the Premier has seen the plans. We would like the community to see the plans of the companies that the member for Pilbara said are running these towns. That is not a big ask. We want to know the commitment the government got out of the companies, and the parameters for assessing the success of the project. If the companies fail, what will the sanctions be? I now know that the government should not rely on the advice of its agencies on sanctions, and what the sanctions should be. I know what comes out of the department for state development. I know what the briefing

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note the Premier will receive on these sorts of issues will look like. I can tell members now that it will not be in favour of Karratha or the Pilbara; it will be in favour of the companies that run those towns. The Premier needs to come to the party, table these participation plans and put them out there for the community to ensure that there is a level of public scrutiny—the rolled-gold transparency that he came to government on. He was elected on a platform of transparency; this a major test for this Premier and regional development, and he needs to come to the party on it.

**DR M.D. NAHAN (Riverton — Leader of the Opposition)** [4.24 pm]: I would like to put the Liberal Party's perspective on this debate. This follows on from a suspension of standing orders not too long ago, during which I was asked whether I supported the Nationals WA on this issue. At that time I had scant information on Bay Village, but I asked the Premier a simple question: how many of the operational workers will stay at Bay Village? He point-blank refused to answer. He then went on to accuse the Liberal Party of being against the oil and gas industry and fly in, fly out workers. The Liberal Party gave rise to the North West Shelf project. We developed every expansion or major project in the LNG industry—Pluto for Woodside, Wheatstone, Gorgon, Prelude; every one. We did them all. He criticised us for the promotion and bringing Browse on land. I do not flinch from the efforts of the previous Premier. It generated in the vicinity of \$50 billion and over 20 000 jobs. This Premier criticises us for trying to achieve that. For a variety of reasons, we did not achieve it, but he criticised us. I do not for a second back down from those actions. We have received the good news that Browse, and maybe the Scarborough gas, will be brought into the Burrup. In the meantime, we have to start planning ahead for that. That is good news that has nothing to do with this Premier. It will deal with oil, gas and the price of LNG, and decisions of the firms that own those resources. This Premier is taking total credit; he deserves none.

Woodside will have to invest \$4 billion or \$5 billion to expand its existing gas plants. They are getting old and will have to be altered if they are going to take gas for tolling from other sources. Great. Good. That is nothing to do with this government. It is a commercial decision that the government is as usual taking credit for. Do we support that? Absolutely. We worked at this for decades. This was our game; the Labor Party is just a follower. But the real issue is keeping Karratha a regional city. Successive governments have invested billions of Western Australian dollars into that. It is essential. Outside Qatar, it will be the largest LNG hub in the world. There needs to be a community around that to supply workers, enjoyment, quality of life and other things.

We are now planning for a major new phase of the Burrup and Woodside. As for every other expansion, we have to know what to expect of Woodside—an excellent Western Australian firm—in the future. What can we expect from its investment in the community, its drawing from the community and what it will bring back to the community? Does that mean we are against FIFO? Good God, no! That is stupid! I represent a community of FIFO workers, but I am also bright enough to know that building Karratha as a regional city is absolutely vital for this state, and indeed for Woodside.

So we want to know what the government has agreed to. It is as simple as that. We want the rolled-gold transparency standard as promised. What has the government promised? What has it put into the agreement? Woodside has a strong policy of encouraging a certain type of people to relocate to Karratha. Great! Is it going to wind that back? Is it going to expand it? Who? What will Woodside do about the many, many second-order contractors? Will it take them from Karratha? Will it ensure that there are facilities? Will it pay adequately for the use of local government facilities? Will the camp pay adequate rates to the City of Karratha for the services it provides? We want transparency.

**MR M. McGOWAN (Rockingham — Premier)** [4.28 pm]: Once again the Liberal Party is showing that the Nationals and Liberals are the enemy of the mining and energy industry. That is very clear.

Several members interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I am saying it, and a lot of people in the resources industry are saying it. The opposition is so caught up in this argument of trying to destroy the resources industry that it cannot —

Several members interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Madam Acting Speaker, I did not interject on the opposition while it was speaking. Opposition members are the enemies of the resources industry; that is clear.

Several members interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Let me tell the opposition that it is well acknowledged in the resources industry in Western Australia today. I have said that I did not interject on opposition members while they were speaking.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Ms S.E. Winton):** Thank you, members. Leader of the Opposition, I note you are on three strikes. I have not had the privilege of removing anyone yet, so could we please hear the Premier in silence. Thank you.

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**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The Liberals and Nationals are once again showing their cards that they are the enemies of the resources industry. The Leader of the Opposition, in his comments referring to the Liberal Party's role in resources historically, demonstrates that the Liberal Party today is nothing like the Liberal Party of the 1960s or even the 1990s. The National Party is clearly the enemy of Woodside; it clearly hates Woodside as a company and hates its role. I think that is a misreading of that company. As I said in question time, without Woodside, Karratha would die. Woodside is the lifeblood of that community. Without that company and what it does in that community, Karratha and its surrounding towns would be a shadow of what it is today. That is a fact. I want to see Karratha continue to flourish. I will just explain it again. We made a very difficult decision, but the right decision, to ensure that Karratha continues to thrive and prosper, because we are doing whatever needs to be done to bring Browse and Scarborough gas onshore.

**Mr V.A. Catania:** When you say it is difficult decision, why can't you table your documents?

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Member for North West Central, please. Can the Lord Haw-Haw of the Parliament please stop interjecting. I did not interject on him. We made the difficult but necessary decision to ensure that Browse and Scarborough gas comes onshore, and that is our position; that is my position. I want it to come to Karratha so that I and future Premiers can ensure that at any one point in time, people up there are saying that gas, which could easily have been processed elsewhere or might not have been processed for decades or even centuries to come, is coming to Karratha and keeping that community prosperous. That is what I want to see happen, and we are doing what needs to be done in order to make sure that occurs.

I have explained my second point to members opposite before, but I will explain it again. Woodside has a lease over a property where it could put in place a bigger work camp, further from town, which was signed up in 2011 when the National Party was in government. If this lease opportunity at Bay Village is rejected, Woodside can easily go to Civeo further out of town. I do not know why the opposition is intellectually incapable of understanding that argument.

*Point of Order*

**Mr V.A. CATANIA:** The Premier is not sticking to the motion, which clearly asks for him to table the local participation plan. That is the motion. Can you please direct the Premier to table that document, Madam Acting Speaker? That is the motion.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Ms S.E. Winton):** Thank you, member. I do not think I can direct him to table a document. This is not question time, it is general debate, and I think he is getting to the motion.

*Debate Resumed*

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The company can establish a camp at a place called Civeo further out of town. I do not know why the Liberals and Nationals cannot intellectually understand that. We have negotiated an arrangement whereby we maximise local employment, we provide additional opportunities for Browse and Scarborough gas to come onshore in Karratha, we ensure the long-term viability and survival of Karratha as a prosperous community and we ensure that children coming out of high school in Karratha have the best opportunities for employment. Why can the opposition not understand that? Why does it object so vigorously to that? I will get to those points.

Several members interjected.

**The ACTING SPEAKER:** Members! It is clear that the Premier has indicated he is not taking interjections, so could we please hear him in silence.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The Liberals and Nationals have a long time in opposition, so they may as well get a bit of patience.

I will take members through a few of the issues. First of all, I was asked a question without notice, the third question in question time, and instantly, at the first opportunity, the member for North West Central stands up to suspend standing orders to demand that the participation plan be released because I did not release it in question time when I was asked a question without notice. Does that not seem —

**Mr R.S. Love:** You refused to release it.

**Ms R. Saffioti:** No, he did not. He did not refuse.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Honestly, this opposition is so low quality. You are so low quality—honestly, you are. Maybe one or two members are not, but in general they are. I was asked a question in question time and I did not immediately respond, because I wanted to get a little bit of advice, and immediately after question time the member for North West Central stands up and demands that I release the document and condemns me for not releasing it during question time. Does the member not think that he might have given me a bit of time to get a bit of advice? Does he not think that it might have been an appropriate thing to do?

**Mr V.A. Catania** interjected.

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**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Then he interjects again. The yapping happens again.

Then the Vichy member for North West Central said this. His exact words were, “Hand over the document so we can see how you have done over the people of Karratha.” It is not like he said to hand over the document so it could be analysed to determine what is reasonable and what is not in the document. He said, “Hand over the document so we can see how you have done over the people of Karratha.”

**Mr V.A. Catania:** You have done over the people of Karratha.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** There we are!

Several members interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** It does not matter what we do, the member has prejudged the issue. It does not matter what is said, the member has prejudged the issue. It does not matter what is in the agreement, because the member has prejudged the issue. He has said that in his own words. This idea that somehow the member wants to analyse the agreement to get to the bottom of what is going on is ludicrous. He has no intention of analysing it to see what is good and what is bad. His intention is to wave it around in Karratha and be a big man and say, “Look at us, we’re standing up for Karratha.” The reality is that the member is trying to kill the future of Karratha. That is the reality. The Liberal Party is joining him in that. Then the member for North West Central verbally the member for Pilbara. The member for Pilbara said that the best day of his life was the launching of the jobs portal. Look at the jobs portal. There are jobs offered giving first priority to the people of Karratha. That is a great achievement. During the matter of public interest the Liberal Party attacked us for securing more money from Canberra. During this suspension motion the very sparse members of the National Party are attacking us for establishing a jobs portal giving preference to the people of Karratha. Seriously, what planet is the National Party on? Does the National Party think the people of Karratha are unhappy that their children are getting preference at Woodside? Does it think they are unhappy about that? If I lived in Karratha and my children were going through high school or TAFE or undertaking a university degree and the opportunities were being offered —

**Mr V.A. Catania** interjected.

**The ACTING SPEAKER:** Member for North West Central!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Please, the Lord Haw-Haw of the Parliament spouts off like the former Lord Haw-Haw upon whom he models himself. Please be quiet, because we all know what happened to Lord Haw-Haw—at least I do; you probably do not.

That is the context of the issue: we want to bring the gas onshore and we want to ensure that Karratha people have the first opportunity.

I have the local participation plan here and I will table it at the conclusion of my remarks. It covers a whole range of issues that were agreed between the government and Woodside. As was made clear on the day, the minister has not yet signed the lease, but the intention of the government is to negotiate the lease with Woodside. The provisions of the local participation plan are that there is a locals-first job portal, which we have established. It is the first time in Western Australia that that has been done. In accordance with this plan and the portal, which has been released, people in Karratha will have first preference for jobs at Woodside. That is a good thing. Obviously, if a person lives in Karratha and they raise their family there, if they provide that support and encouragement to that community, they get the first opportunity. The portal is also advertising jobs from other employers. Our expectation is that people in the Pilbara, but Karratha more generally, will be accessing this portal, this website, very regularly to see what opportunities are available for them. Karratha is 1 500 kilometres or so from the member for North West Central’s house. It is a community way out there in the country, a long way away from where the member for North West Central lives in Mt Claremont.

**Mr V.A. Catania** interjected.

**The ACTING SPEAKER:** Member for North West Central, thank you.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Maybe it touched a nerve. Here he is in Mt Claremont, a long way away from the people of Karratha. Karratha is a lovely community, but isolated. Let us be fair, it is a long way away from where the member lives. Our view is that the people who live in Karratha in the Pilbara, who are raising their families and doing the hard yards on behalf of the state, should get some priority, which is terrific for them. We are very pleased about that.

It has a whole range of other provisions about ensuring that contractors use the portal and it has Indigenous opportunities for Aboriginal people. It has the requirement for additional Woodside —

*Tabling of Paper*

**Mr D.T. REDMAN:** The Premier is reading from an official document. I wonder whether the Acting Speaker could ask the Premier to table that document, please.

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**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Further to the point of order, I said at the start of my comments I was going to read from the document and then table it.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Ms S.E. Winton):** I thought that is what I heard too. The member for Warren–Blackwood should be paying more attention!

*Debate Resumed*

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The member needs to settle down a little bit.

**Ms R. Saffioti** interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** That is right. When the member signed up Chevron and changed the agreement, there was none of this local portal business that we are doing.

There are provisions here about additional residential houses for new families to move into Karratha. When it comes to the actual Bay Village, which is being built in a location closer to town than the other opportunity Woodside has, there is the opportunity for additional local jobs, whether it is in the construction of the village itself or the operations of the village and the sorts of jobs generated by the operations at the village. I think it is 70 jobs or so. All those sorts of opportunities are there. It is at least 85 per cent local content in relation to construction. There is a reporting process in relation to the performance of all these matters. Woodside reports to the minister for state development—myself—and there is the opportunity for make-good provisions and a potential penalty for noncompliance. That is what is contained within the local participation plan.

**Mr V.A. Catania** interjected.

**The ACTING SPEAKER:** Member for North West Central!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Lord Haw-Haw, please stop.

*Withdrawal of Remark*

**Mr D.T. REDMAN:** I ask the Premier to withdraw that. He needs to call the member for North West Central by his seat.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Ms S.E. Winton):** Premier, I would ask you to —

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I will call the member for North West Central by his electorate: member for North West Central.

*Debate Resumed*

**The ACTING SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** In response to the motion moved by the opposition—supported by the National Party and supported by the Liberal Party—obviously we are not supporting it. I will table this particular document.

[See paper 1420.]

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** It is not only a bit of a milestone for Western Australia that we have managed to secure this level of local content, local employment and local opportunity for people in the Pilbara, but also it is a milestone that we are doing what is required to bring Browse and Scarborough gas onshore. That is what we are doing. The former Labor government put in place the domestic gas requirements. The government of Alan Carpenter brought that in. I recall that it was strenuously objected to by the then federal Liberal government. A few federal Labor people as well might have also strenuously objected to it. They were all wrong and we were right. Domestic gas is now a reality in Western Australia—unlike the eastern states, which suffer as a consequence. We have seen terrible disruption in the eastern states because they have not protected their states, as Labor did back in 2006 and 2007 at a state level with domestic gas requirements. We are ensuring that the future of Karratha and the future of gas coming down the pipeline from the North West Shelf is protected. That is what we are doing.

The National Party might, as it will, scaremonger around Karratha, but I think people in the Pilbara and people in Western Australia are smarter than that. They are smarter than to fall for these sorts of ridiculous, silly, outrageous scare campaigns that the National Party, supported by the Liberal Party, is engaging in. Woodside is a good employer. It employs many Western Australians. I want it to continue to do so for another century. The policy of this government is to create jobs opportunities and to ensure the long-term viability and future of the important community of Karratha.

*Division*

Question put and a division taken, the Acting Speaker (Ms S.E. Winton) casting her vote with the noes, with the following result —

**Extract from *Hansard***  
[ASSEMBLY — Tuesday, 19 June 2018]  
p3557a-3562a

Mr Vincent Catania; Mr David Templeman; Mr Terry Redman; Dr Mike Nahan; Mr Mark McGowan; Acting  
Speaker

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Ayes (16)

Mr I.C. Blayney  
Mr V.A. Catania  
Mrs L.M. Harvey  
Dr D.J. Honey

Mr P. Katsambanis  
Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup  
Mr A. Krsticevic  
Mr S.K. L'Estrange

Mr R.S. Love  
Mr W.R. Marmion  
Mr J.E. McGrath  
Dr M.D. Nahan

Mr D.C. Nalder  
Mr D.T. Redman  
Mr P.J. Rundle  
Ms L. Mettam (*Teller*)

Noes (36)

Dr A.D. Buti  
Mrs R.M.J. Clarke  
Mr R.H. Cook  
Ms J. Farrer  
Mr M.J. Folkard  
Ms J.M. Freeman  
Ms E. Hamilton  
Mr T.J. Healy  
Mr M. Hughes

Mr W.J. Johnston  
Mr D.J. Kelly  
Mr F.M. Logan  
Mr M. McGowan  
Ms S.F. McGurk  
Mr K.J.J. Michel  
Mr S.A. Millman  
Mr M.P. Murray  
Mrs L.M. O'Malley

Mr P. Papalia  
Mr S.J. Price  
Mr D.T. Punch  
Mr J.R. Quigley  
Ms M.M. Quirk  
Mrs M.H. Roberts  
Ms C.M. Rowe  
Ms R. Saffioti  
Ms A. Sanderson

Ms J.J. Shaw  
Mrs J.M.C. Stojkovski  
Mr C.J. Tallentire  
Mr D.A. Templeman  
Mr P.C. Tinley  
Mr R.R. Whitby  
Ms S.E. Winton  
Mr B.S. Wyatt  
Mr D.R. Michael (*Teller*)

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Pair

Ms M.J. Davies

Mr Y. Mubarakai

Question thus negatived.