

PUMPED HYDRO — COLLIE

1331. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Energy:

I refer to questions without notice 498 of 16 May 2023 and 739 of 22 June 2023.

- (1) On what date did the government receive the Synergy and Water Corporation study into the feasibility of pumped hydro in Collie?
- (2) What external-to-government contractors or consultants were engaged by Synergy and Water Corporation in the commissioning of the report, and for what financial remuneration?
- (3) Where were the five locations examined in the assessment of the viability of pumped hydro in Collie, and how were they selected?
- (4) Will the minister confirm to the house his spokesperson's statement that pumped hydro in Collie is non-viable?
- (5) Will the minister table for the house the Synergy and Water Corporation study; and, if not, why not?

Hon DARREN WEST replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Energy, I provide the following answer.

- (1)–(5) Synergy has recently provided its findings to government and they are now under consideration. The study confirmed that pumped hydro in the south west interconnected system would face multiple challenges. The findings are cabinet-in-confidence, so no further details can be shared at this time.