

INFRASTRUCTURE — FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING

802. Mr R.S. LOVE to the Treasurer.

I have a supplementary question. Given that Minister King has now confirmed that Western Australian projects are indeed on the chopping block, does the Treasurer concede that it was wrong for her predecessor to give bland assurances to the house that Western Australian projects were safe?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

Again, I have not received any formal communication regarding any projects being cut. What I am saying is that I am in there, as part of the state government, to bat for WA. We are a growing state. There are pressures across the state. I look to the member for Pilbara and the member for Kimberley. We are delivering projects that will support economic development and economic growth that supports not only the state's finances, but also the federal government's finances. As I said, we have always been very open to discuss changing cash flows to make sure we have a steady stream of projects. We have done that in the past two budgets. We continually manage and work with industry to make sure there is a continual program of projects, and we will continue to do that. I am proud of the agenda that we have set and I will stick to the agenda that we have set.