

TIDAL POWER PROJECT, MINISTER'S VISIT

70. Dr GALLOP to the Minister assisting the Treasurer:

- (1) Did the minister recently visit Derby as Minister assisting the Treasurer in order to examine the proposed tidal power project?
- (2) If so, did the visit convince the minister that tidal power is the best option for the supply of electricity to the West Kimberley region?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1)-(2) For the record, I visited Derby as the Minister for Planning and not as the Minister assisting the Treasurer.

Dr Gallop: What was the purpose of the visit?

Mr KIERATH: The purpose was to look at issues associated with a tidal power project. Members on this side of the House support all forms of energy.

Dr Gallop: Not the Minister for Energy.

Mr KIERATH: He does. He is a very strong supporter of renewable energy. He has a number of renewable energy projects across the State. Notwithstanding that, I do not want to get into the debate on energy. I would like to see the State exploit natural sources of energy. I spent two weeks recently in the vicinity of Derby. I have to say that the tidal power between the horizontal waterfalls is awesome. Hopefully, one day, that power can be harnessed for the benefit of all.