Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Wednesday, 29 November 2023] p6725c-6725c Hon Neil Thomson; Hon Darren West

WESTERN AUSTRALIA RETURN RECYCLE RENEW LTD

1546. Hon NEIL THOMSON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the decision of Western Australia Return Recycle Renew Ltd to apply an additional 1¢ to 2¢ per container to depots and service providers that use the newly launched WARRL-owned click and collect app.

- (1) Does the minister believe it is fair that WARRRL exercises its government-sponsored complete market domination to crush a small private sector innovator that has been in the market for approximately two years?
- (2) Will the government undertake a review of WARRRL's actions in accordance with the Competition Principles Agreement?
- (3) If yes to (2), and if WARRRL is found to be acting in an anti-competitive way, what sanctions, if any, will be applied to WARRRL?

Hon DARREN WEST replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Environment, I provide the following answer.

(1)–(3) Western Australia Return Recycle Renew Ltd is not an agent of the state. WARRRL is an independent not-for-profit public company that was appointed, following a request for proposal process, as the scheme coordinator of the Western Australian container deposit scheme under the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007. WARRRL is responsible for the financial management, collection, logistics, processing, recycling, auditing and validation of the container deposit scheme. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is aware of complaints from a commercial operator about WARRRL's click and collect scheme for home and business container collections, but has not been provided with any evidence that WARRRL is contravening the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 or the Competition and Consumer Act 2010.