Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Tuesday, 21 March 2023] p1188b-1188b Ms Rita Saffioti

FREMANTLE PORTS — ROOFTOP SOLAR ARRAY

Statement by Minister for Ports

MS R. SAFFIOTI (West Swan — Minister for Ports) [1.07 pm]: I rise to advise the house that one of Perth's largest rooftop solar arrays is set to be switched on at Victoria Quay. Over recent months, Fremantle Ports has been hard at work installing 1 100 solar panels on the Fremantle Passenger Terminal. The solar array is set to power 100 per cent of the operations at the Fremantle Passenger Terminal when a cruise ship is in port, and around 65 per cent of the port administration building. It is anticipated that over the 25-year life span of the system it will offset around 15 000 tonnes of CO₂, which would be the equivalent of planting around 85 000 trees. The initiative contributes to the *Fremantle Ports: 2027 strategic plan* to achieve net zero scope emissions by 2027. As Fremantle Passenger Terminal is heritage listed, approval from the Heritage Council of Western Australia was required before the solar panels were installed. The panels cannot be seen from the surrounding area at ground level and the port made sure there would be no increase in glare for adjacent residents in Fremantle or shipboard passengers. The installation of the solar array complements the state government's \$3 million investment in upgrades to the Fremantle Passenger Terminal to ensure it remains fit for purpose. It is important we take care of this magnificent building as it will remain a focal point in a redeveloped Victoria Quay. I thank the Fremantle Port Authority for showing leadership in delivering this project, playing its role as we push towards net zero.