

SOUTH WEST MANUFACTURING HUB

1045. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to the minister's media statement of 5 September 2023 entitled "Planning advances for proposed South-West manufacturing hub" and the appointment of Deloitte to deliver a feasibility study.

- (1) What confirmed time frame has been established for the delivery of the feasibility study to government?
- (2) What previous concept or feasibility studies have been undertaken for the proposed south west manufacturing hub, and on what dates were the studies undertaken and by whom?
- (3) What is the value of the contract that was awarded to Deloitte to undertake the feasibility study?
- (4) Will the commissioned feasibility study be deemed a publicly available document?
- (5) Is the proposed study a sop to the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union?

Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:

It must be a Thursday! I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided by the Minister for Regional Development.

- (1) A detailed feasibility study and business case will be delivered over a 12-month time frame, commencing in September 2023, delivering on a key election commitment of the state government.
- (2) In 2021, Paxon Group was engaged to investigate broad industry demand and opportunities for an advanced manufacturing hub in the south west. This work was completed in February 2022 with the delivery of a preliminary assessment report.
- (3) A comprehensive tender process was conducted through the Department of Finance, which resulted in the appointment of Deloitte for a total contract value of \$1.12 million.
- (4) The feasibility study and business case may contain information that is commercial-in-confidence and unsuitable for public release.
- (5) It is expected that Deloitte will consult with all stakeholders as part of the study.