

COALFIELDS HIGHWAY — MAINTENANCE

637. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the wear and tear on road networks caused by trucks, and I ask:

- (a) the closure of tier three railways will result in additional grain trucks using the Coalfields Highway, what measures are in place to deal with the resultant increased maintenance needs of the highway;
- (b) the Government secures road maintenance contributions from the resources sector, will similar contributions be sought from the agricultural sector or grain transporters; and
- (c) if no to (b), how will additional maintenance for our roads be funded?

Hon Jim Chown replied:

- (a) Main Roads does not expect any significant or noticeable increase in the maintenance requirements of Coalfields Highway as a result of tier 3 rail closures. It is worth noting that the Liberal-led Government has invested over \$53m to improve the Coalfields Highway, which is in stark contrast to the previous Labor Government who did not invest a single dollar in their two terms of Government.
- (b)–(c) No.