

KALBARRI, POWER SUPPLY

**243. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the minister representing the Minister for Energy:**

The minister is aware that at least \$80 000 worth of damage was caused to consumers during the Kalbarri brownouts and blackouts, which resulted in major disruption.

- (1) Is there any intention to construct a new power line from Northampton to Port Gregory to alleviate the shortage of power in Kalbarri?
- (2) When will that happen?
- (3) What will the cost be?
- (4) What is the schedule for the completion of the silicon coating of insulators from Northampton to Kalbarri?

**Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:**

The Minister for Energy provided the following reply -

- (1) Yes.
- (2) It will be done when the planning forecasts predict a shortage of power capacity in Kalbarri. Currently there is sufficient capacity in Kalbarri to accommodate demand. The recent problems related to reliability rather than capacity. Interruptions occurred because of faults on the network delivering the power. The interruptions did not occur because of a shortage of power.
- (3) It will cost about \$3 million.
- (4) The line between Northampton and Kalbarri will be recoated with silicon before the next pole-top fire season.