

**GRIFFIN COAL**

*Statement by Deputy Premier*

**MS R. SAFFIOTI (West Swan — Deputy Premier)** [1.10 pm]: On behalf of the Premier, I wish to provide the house with an update on the state government's provision of support to stabilise Griffin Coal operations to ensure energy system security for Western Australia and certainty for the Collie workforce and community. As the Premier has advised the house previously, the government is committed to transparency and will continue to provide updates when possible, noting that this matter is commercially sensitive and there are limitations on what can be shared. Griffin Coal supplies coal to the privately owned Bluewaters power station, which provides generation capacity for the south west interconnected system and South32's Worsley refinery. Since the last update, the state agreement with Griffin Coal has been extended by 12 months, with the possibility of a further 12-month extension. The extension enables continuity of coal supply, whilst allowing further time for commercial parties to resolve outstanding matters. The government remains of the firm belief that Griffin Coal's financial difficulties should be resolved through a commercial agreement with its customers based on paying a price for coal that supports the stable operation of the mine. The Premier previously advised the house that Treasury has appointed Ad Astra Corporate Advisory to assist the government with the discussions with commercial parties with a view to facilitating this outcome. Those discussions remain ongoing.

The government has not provided further funding assistance since the Premier last updated the house. For the period January to June 2023, the government provided \$23.2 million to stabilise Griffin Coal operations, providing energy security and certainty for the Collie workforce and community. The government is currently finalising a further funding assistance agreement, termed a process agreement, with the receivers and managers of Griffin Coal. Under this agreement, government has discretion as to how much support to offer for the period of the state agreement extension to June 2024. To assist government with the administration of the process agreement, KPMG has been engaged to provide advice on mining operations and funding matters. The government's priority remains energy security and certainty for the Collie workforce and community.