

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY — PREMIER McGOWAN

1023. Hon BEN DAWKINS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer the minister to the news article dated 10 September 2023 by Kathryn Diss at the ABC.

- (1) Is there a written record or file note relating to the phone call referred to in the article between former Premier Mark McGowan and the head of the Environmental Protection Authority, Dr Tom Hatton?
- (2) If there is, can the minister table the record; and, if not, why not?
- (3) Is the Environmental Protection Authority still an independent authority?

Hon DARREN WEST replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Environment, I provide the following answer.

- (1)–(3) The Environmental Protection Authority maintains its own independent records. The legislative framework of section 8 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 outlines the independence of the EPA and the EPA chair.