

**WESTERN POWER REVIEW PANEL, APPOINTMENT OF DR FRANK HARMAN**

*Statement by Member for Collie*

**MR MURRAY** (Collie) [12.24 pm]: Through this House I register my and the coal industry's objection to the appointment of Dr Frank Harman to the Western Power review panel. I have serious concerns with Mr Harman's ability to review the structure and workings of Western Power in an unbiased way. In 1994, Mr Harman was the centre of controversy in a Western Power review concerning gas versus coal as a fuel supply for electricity generation in the coal contract inquiry before special investigator Mr Roger Kenneth Frederick Davis. It was admitted by Mr Harman that his paper on coal contracts had mistakes and was misleading at best. I quote from the transcript of the Coal Contract Inquiry 1994, page 2273, which states -

Do you not agree with me that the best thing the investigator could do with this is tear it up and throw it away and pay no attention, further attention to it?

Mr Harman replied -

Well yes, I'd have to agree with you.

Due to the evidence produced I call on the Minister for Energy to remove Mr Harman from the Western Power review panel due to his previous inability to produce an unbiased and factual paper.