

**INPEX — CARBON FARMING**

*Statement by Member for Cottesloe*

**DR D.J. HONEY (Cottesloe — Leader of the Liberal Party)** [12.55 pm]: I recently had the wonderful opportunity to meet with members of the Inpex team to discuss their new and exciting carbon farming and renewable biofuels project in Western Australia's wheatbelt. In partnership with ANZ Bank and Qantas, Inpex is looking to integrate drought-resilient native trees into existing farms, hoping to bolster this state's strong position as a leading carbon farmer. Additionally, Inpex is exploring the possibility of using native biomass and crop residues to locally manufacture low-carbon and renewable biofuels. Projects like these demonstrate that Western Australian businesses, including our world-class mining sector, are taking the lead in developing responsible and substantial environmental initiatives. This proposal in particular promises to support and enrich the unique flora and fauna of the wheatbelt, which is an iconic landscape in rural Western Australia. Initiatives developed by the private sector have demonstrated that significant environmental projects can also support local farmers and enrich the WA economy. It was encouraging to hear that Inpex is looking to increase carbon farming opportunities by minimising the financial risks that farmers normally face. Projects like these provide enormous support to regional economies by increasing employment and improving rural infrastructure. With the first planting of trees expected to take place in 2023, I wish Inpex and its partners the best of luck with an exciting and important new project that promises to benefit our economy and the environment.