

OIL AND GAS RESOURCES, FUTURE USE

**226. Hon JIM SCOTT to the minister representing the Minister for Energy:**

- (1) Does the Minister for Energy agree that -
  - (a) Western Australian oil and gas supplies are finite; and
  - (b) the unfettered use of energy will cause detrimental climate change in Western Australia?
- (2) Does the Minister for Energy intend to develop a strategic energy use policy in Western Australia?
- (3) Does the Minister for Energy have access to accurate summations of Western Australia's economically exploitable oil and gas reserves and the current and projected usage rates?

**Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:**

The Minister for Energy has provided the following response -

- (1)
  - (a) Yes.
  - (b) Current evidence suggests that unfettered use of carbon-based energy in the United States, China, India, Europe and the rest of the world will have a detrimental effect on the world climate.  
  
Energy consumption in Western Australia has a minor impact on the world environment. However, the Government is developing a greenhouse gas strategy to address this.
- (2) There is no immediate plan to develop a policy with that title, although a number of government policies and initiatives such as the Energy Smart program seek to address energy use issues.
- (3) Yes.