

COAL INDUSTRY ADVOCATE, APPOINTMENT

279. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for State Development:

I refer to a government media statement of 13 January 2005 issued by the then Minister for State Development.

- (1) Has a senior officer within the Department of Industry and Resources been appointed as a coal industry advocate, as promised under the Gallop government's "Coal Future Strategy"?
- (2) Will the minister make this officer available to brief members of the National Party on the Gallop government's plans to develop Western Australia's coal industry?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. I note that the answer does not properly address part (2) of the question regarding the request by the National Party for a briefing. I will have to take that as a separate matter. The answers I have been provided with are -

- (1) Yes.
- (2) I refer the honourable member to the attached publication, "Coal Future Strategy", which sets out clearly the government's plans for Western Australia's coal industry. I will, as I said, carry forward the request for a briefing.

[See paper 353.]