

KYOTO PROTOCOL, PREMIER'S OPPOSITION TO SIGNING

187. Hon JIM SCOTT to the minister representing the Premier:

I refer to the Premier's statement on greenhouse gases and global warming in which he said he was opposed to the signing of the Kyoto agreement.

- (1) When he made that statement was he putting his own position or that of his party?
- (2) What consultation did he have with other ministers and members of his party before he made that statement?
- (3) What research has the Premier done regarding the economic, social and environmental cost of global warming in Western Australia?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I am genuinely grateful to Hon Jim Scott for providing some notice of the question.

- (1)-(2) The Premier said that Australia should aspire to ratify the Kyoto agreement. However, the Premier believes that the Commonwealth Government should engage the States and Territories before it ratifies the agreement in order to clarify the terms and conditions of that ratification and what it would mean for the different States and Territories.

This is the Government's position, which is exactly what I said on the same day, in a slightly different way.

- (3) As part of the development of the Government's greenhouse strategy, work is being undertaken on this issue.