

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SEA LEVEL RISES

148. Hon JIM SCOTT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

Further to question without notice 34 of 4 March 2004 regarding climate change and sea level rises, I ask -

- (1) Why did the minister choose to use the Australian Institute of Engineers sea level rise figure of 0.38 metres and not the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change figures that suggest a sea level rise range of 0.33 to 1.1 metres with a most likely rise of 0.66 metres?
- (2) Is the minister aware of why the Western Australian Planning Commission is using the low figure of the Australian Institute of Engineers and not the figure established by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change?
- (3) If so, will the minister detail the reason?
- (4) Is the minister aware that the IPCC recommends that coastal zone managers evaluate impacts based on consideration of at least a one metre sea level rise scenario?
- (5) Has the minister sought advice about the level of liability faced by the State for not imposing a sea level rise scenario established by the IPCC?

Hon KEN TRAVERS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. Given the complexity of the question, the minister has asked that the member put the question on notice.