The comments the Hon. Ben Wyatt MLA, Minister for Energy, provided to the West Australian are as follows:

“The Federal Government’s decision to walk away from the National Energy Guarantee has certainly meant that until the next Federal Election we are unlikely to see a comprehensive national policy that deals with energy emissions.

“However, I remain hopeful that once we have a new Federal Government, of either stripe, we will see them embrace a national approach to an emissions reduction strategy. The McGowan Government is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with Australia’s international commitments, and supports a national approach as the most efficient and effective way to deliver on these commitments.

“This is why the [sic] we continue to work through the Council of Australian Governments Energy Council to seek a national approach to reducing emissions from the electricity sector.

“It should be noted that as it stands the national Renewable Energy Target requirement will remain in place at the same level between 2020 and 2030.

“However, despite the inertia on a Federal level, we are not merely sitting idly by waiting for direction.

“The McGowan Government is undertaking several important reform initiatives to enable greater renewable energy participation on the South West Interconnected System. These reforms include:

- a ‘constrained’ access framework for the Western Power network, which will allow new renewable generation projects to be connected to the network without incurring expensive network augmentation costs; and
- reforms to modernise our Wholesale Electricity Market to enable all capable technologies to provide capacity, energy and ancillary services in the future, including storage, to enable the lowest cost electricity supply mix as we transition to a system with greater levels of renewable generation.

“In short, we are continuing to work on our own reforms while still remaining hopeful that after the next Federal election we will see whoever is in the Lodge put energy emissions policy back on the national agenda.”