10 MAR 2015

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question on notice

Wednesday, 3 December 2014

2283. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Premier.

Has the State Government had any discussion with the Federal Government regarding the China/Australia Free Trade Agreement and the following issues:
(a) the revenue lost from the cuts to import tariffs and its impact on Western Australian state revenue;
(b) if no to (a), why not;
(c) what measures the Government will take to inhibit the power of the investor-state dispute settlement provisions, which internationally has created precedent for private companies to sue governments for billions of dollars, thus creating a large potential for them to influence state regulatory legislation;
(d) if no to (c), why not;
(e) the impact of Chinese industry and labour competition on local industries and jobs;
(f) if no to (e), why not;
(g) if yes to (a), (c) and/or (e), will the State Government table the correspondence; and
(h) if no to (g), why not?

Answer

Department of State Development advises:

(a)-(h) Free Trade Agreements are a matter for the Federal Government. The Western Australian Government continues to identify opportunities and monitor any impact of the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement on local industries and jobs.