

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**  
**Question Without Notice**

**Wednesday, 9 November 2016**

**C1317. Hon Robin Chappie to the Minister for Planning representing the Minister for Environment**

Hon Robin Chapple MLC to the Minister for Planning Representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the Paris Agreement, entered into force on 4 November 2016, and ask:

- (1) What measures have the government introduced to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state of Western Australia?
- (2) Please justify how the measures in (1) will contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in WA in line with the commitments in the Paris Agreement?
- (3) Does the government have in place a long term plan to ensure that WA is contributing equally to the global commitment for warming to not exceed 2c above pre-industrial levels, in line with the Paris Agreement?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?

---

**Answer**

I thank the Hon Member for some notice of this question.

The Minister for Environment has provided the following response.

- (1)-(4) The Western Australian Government's view is that decisions on the design, implementation and timing of the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions are primarily matters for the Commonwealth Government and the Federal Parliament, so that measures may be designed in the most economically efficient manner. The Western Australian Government supports complementary efforts to the national mitigation targets.

An example includes the Western Australian Government's Low Emissions Energy Development fund to support innovative low-emissions energy technologies at the pre-commercialisation stage. Over \$17 million has been paid to nine different low-emissions energy projects between 2008 and 2016. Projects included Carnegie Wave Energy's Garden Island pilot project, the world's first grid-connected wave array, and a leading wave energy technology internationally, and Richgro's anaerobic digester facility which diverts 150 tonnes of food and organic waste from landfill every day while generating 1.2 megawatts.

Another initiative is the Western Australian Government's State Fleet Offset Program for passenger and light commercial vehicles that firstly aims to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from its fleet of approximately 11,000 vehicles and secondly offsets the CO2 emissions that occur. The gradual reduction in greenhouse gas emissions has been achieved through a program of pursuing more efficient and environmentally friendly vehicles.

In addition, the Western Australian Government is evaluating the use of stand-alone power systems and integrated battery storage as well as renewable based micro-grids, in order to lower costs and improve reliability in certain areas of the State. These renewable power systems and battery storage will also deliver reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. A \$4 million stand-alone power system pilot project, announced in July 2016, is trialing solar panels and battery storage on six rural properties. A \$6.7 million project, led by Synergy and partly funded by Australian Renewable Energy Agency, is underway at Alkimos Beach, north of Perth, trialing community scale battery storage with high penetration solar photovoltaics and energy management.

AG