



















**Melissa HORNE:** But I think at the heart of it, this is well and truly, Chair, with respect, outside of the budget papers.

**The CHAIR:** Thank you, Minister. Mr Puglielli, please move on.

**Aiv PUGLIELLI:** Okay, I will just note I did not get a yes to that question.

**The CHAIR:** Mr Puglielli, the Chair has asked you to move on. It is not a matter of the minister not giving you a yes.

**Aiv PUGLIELLI:** Okay, I will move on. What is the Labor government's plan for reducing emissions from freight rail?

**Melissa HORNE:** Well, thank you. As I have outlined in previous answers, we have got such a massive investment in our regional rail freight. I will not dwell on the investment that we have already done into upgrading the network, but the other thing we have got is the port rail shuttle network. That is effectively three intermodal terminals that are around Melbourne. So there is SCT out at Altona – and this is a combination of a \$58 million investment by the Commonwealth and also the state government to get these up and running. We have got SCT out at Altona. That is up and running. We have got Somerton up in the north that is under construction at the moment and also Dandenong, where that rail connection is already built. This is providing that network to be able to move freight in and out of the Port of Melbourne on rail.

**The CHAIR:** Thank you, Minister.

Minister and officials, thank you very much for taking the time to appear before the committee this afternoon. The committee will follow up on any questions taken on notice in writing, and responses are required within five working days of the committee's request.

The committee is now going to take a short break before beginning its consideration of the local government portfolio at 5:30 pm.

I declare this hearing adjourned.

**Witnesses withdrew.**