



**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
ECONOMY AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

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Inquiry: Inquiry into the closure of the Hazelwood and Yallourn power stations

Hearing Date: 16 February 2022

Question[s] taken on notice

Directed to: Anthony Wasiukiewicz

**1. MS SHING Page nos. 22-23**

**Question asked.**

...just want to talk about the definition of 'local' within the procurement guidelines. We have, and I am sure you would accept this, numerous workers who work from home from Gippsland who are then based in Melbourne. We have seen changes to real estate. We have seen population decentralisation and communities growing. Do you accept that people can indeed log on and work in Melbourne or in Pakenham or indeed come from Pakenham to Moe or to the valley, and that is part of the way in which people live and work now?

**Response:**

**I will agree that people work in a more diversified manner now, increasingly because of the pandemic. However if the purpose of the LVA is to stimulate the local 'Latrobe City' economy, given the drastic changes that it is presently facing with power station closures, the LVA has to have processes and policies that ensure that directly funding the Latrobe City community is the primary and forefront aim. It doesn't make sense to stimulate the Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong or even Finnish economies, as has been the case to this date, with funds that can better be directed to locals in the direct 'Latrobe City' region who can do the work, and need an adequate and assured transition plan given they have supported the state of Victoria for over 100 years.**

