ATTACHMENT B

Witness Statement of David Christmas

I, David Christmas, of 28 Barrack Street, Perth WA 6000, state that:

1. I am currently Director of the Economic and Revenue Forecasting Division within the Western Australian Department of Treasury. I have occupied that position since November 2012. I have previously acted in the position of Director of what was then the Economic Policy Division. I have been employed in the Department of Treasury since August 1995.

2. My relevant qualification is a Bachelor of Economics with Honours from Murdoch University.

3. The Department of Treasury is the lead agency for the monitoring and analysis of macro-economic conditions in Western Australia. The primary role of the Economic and Revenue Forecasting Division is the generation of macro-economic and revenue forecasts for State budget papers.

4. Earlier in 2023, the Department of Treasury was approached by the Western Australian Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, to produce economic assessments and reports to assist the Commission in Court Session of the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission in its deliberations in Application 1 of 2023.

5. The information contained in the document 'Attachment A' submitted as part of the Exhibit of the Minister for Industrial Relations - entitled Submission of the Minister for Industrial Relations Re: 2023 State Wage Order - was prepared by myself and fellow colleagues under my direction in the Department of Treasury to assist the Commission in Court Session of the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission in its deliberations.

6. The document reports macro-economic indicators, as well as providing economic assessments and an outlook based on these indicators relevant to Application 1 of 2023. Sources such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics and academic reports are referenced where appropriate.

I declare that this statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date: 17 May 2023

Witness:

Name of Witness: BENJAMIN MIFFLIN