



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair)

Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
20 November 2023

Asked by Mr Cocks on 20 November 2023: Mr Lhuede took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard Uncorrected Proof Transcript, 20 November 2023 page 55

In relation to:

Mr Cocks: I am interested in the impacts of moving away from gas connections in new suburbs and whether, as a regulator, we are seeing any evidence of people trying to avoid that and by introducing LPG gas into buildings. Is that something that your inspectors are able to see?

Mr Lhuede: I probably want to take that on notice, Mr Cocks. Obviously there has been a lot of discussion with the transition to gas. Both at the policy level, but also industry and practitioner level. Anecdotally, I have heard reports, but it is not something that we are necessarily tracking at this point in time, so I think it would be best to take that question on notice.

Minister Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

Access Canberra Plumbing and Gas Inspectorate has noted an increase in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) installations in new greenfield suburbs where access to natural gas infrastructure is unavailable, however it appears the numbers are low. These observations, arising from inspections of new installations, indicate the installation of LPG is primarily used for gas cooktops in kitchens.

However, while the observations suggest there is not a large number of such installations, the actual number of LPG installations in new suburbs is not readily available, as the current database has limitations in differentiating between the types of gas used, whether natural or LPG, in a consumer piping installation. The effort to collect and assemble the information sought solely for the purpose of answering the question would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Signature:

Date: 30/11/23

By the Minister for Business and Better Regulation, Ms Tara Cheyne MLA