



**Government
of South Australia**

**Office of the
Minister for Infrastructure
and Transport
Minister for Energy and
Mining**

Level 14, 83 Pirie Street
Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 1533
Adelaide SA 5001

Tel 08 7133 1100

minister.koutsantonis@sa.gov.au

23MEM7769

Hon David Speirs MP
Leader of the Opposition
leaderoftheopposition@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Speirs

APPLICATION UNDER THE *FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1991*

I refer to your application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act), dated 22 May 2023.

Your application seeks access to:

“A copy of all correspondence, including emails, notes, WhatsApp messages, and sms text messages, sent or received by the Minister and the Minister’s Office staff, (excluding media transcripts) which include “Extinction Rebellion” or “XR”, between 21 March 2022 and 22 May 2023.”

An extensive search was conducted within this office. A total of 7 documents were identified as answering the terms of your application.

I grant you access in part to 7 documents; copies of which are enclosed.

Documents Released in Part

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Documents Released in Part

Documents 1, 3, 4 and 5 are released in part with the names of individuals, positions, signatures and mobile numbers redacted from the documents, pursuant to clause 4(1)(a). There are reasonable, legitimate and serious concerns for the welfare and safety of individuals who can be identified and targeted by protestors.

Out of scope information has also been redacted from Documents 1, 3, 4 and 5.

Documents 2, 6 and 7 are released in part as it contains the personal information of third parties. I therefore determine this information exempt pursuant to clause 6.

Exemptions

Clause 4 – Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety

- (1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected—
 - (a) to endanger the life or physical safety of any person.

Clause 6 – Documents affecting personal affairs

- (1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

Please note, in compliance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045 - *Disclosure Logs for Non-Personal Information Released through Freedom of Information* (PC045), details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published in the agency's disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at the following address: <https://dpc.sa.gov.au/resources-and-publications/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>. Please visit the website for further information.

No fees and charges are payable for this application.

If you are unhappy with this determination you are entitled to apply for an internal review, in accordance with section 29 of the FOI Act. To make an internal review application, please either write a letter or complete *Application for Review of Determination* form, to the Principal Officer of this agency, the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP, within 30 (calendar) days after you receive this letter.

If you require any further information, please contact Vicky Cathro on (08) 7133 1100.

Yours sincerely



Carly McNeill
Accredited FOI Officer

21 / 6 /2023

RELEASE IN PART



MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINING

Event Brief

SPE ASIA PACIFIC OIL AND GAS CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

ATTENDEES

Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety

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-

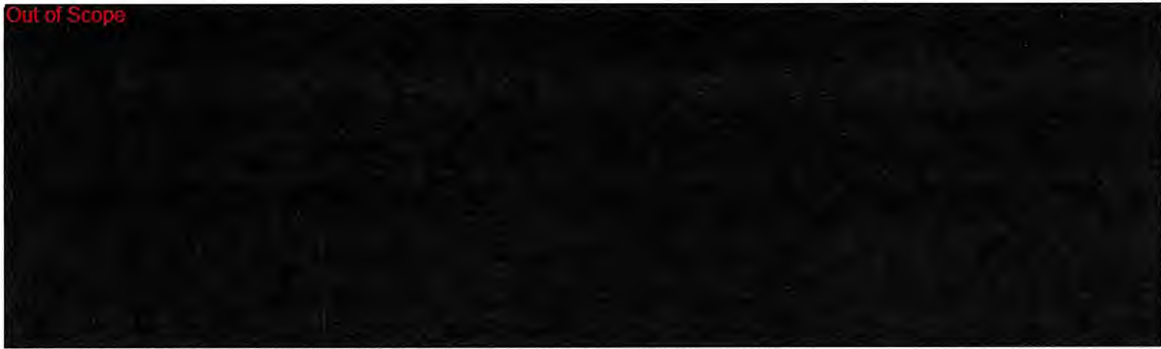
Out of Scope

Out of Scope

- Extinction rebellion protestors will be present, with SA Police and Adelaide Convention Centre security aware and present.



Out of Scope



Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety

Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety

Date: 7 / 10 / 2022

Prepared by: Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety

Phone / Mobile: Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety

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DIT:Minister Koutsantonis

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, 21 October 2022 4:00 PM
To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis
Subject: 22MEM3758 Comments about protestors

Dear Minister,

My name is [Redacted] I am a teacher who works in the northern suburbs of Adelaide and lives in the Adelaide Hills.

I saw your comments about the Extinction Rebellion protestors on Channel 9 News and then in The Guardian - first that decarbonising is hard work, but gluing yourself to things is 'easy', and then that the protestors were being hypocritical for using petrochemicals to glue themselves.

I wanted to share how upset I was by those comments. I don't particularly like the methods of Extinction Rebellion - but I have significant anxiety about climate change, especially living in a bushfire prone area, and sometimes I feel like we are all sleep-walking towards extinction. When I scroll through online news, I regularly see news articles about scientist updates on the dire state of the planet, and predictions of absolute destruction, and I can't believe what I'm seeing - the terrifying warnings are right next to click-bait articles and cat videos. It truly does feel like we are in the film, 'Don't Look Up'.

I don't like the Extinction Rebellion methods BUT at least they are trying to snap us out of our business-as-usual stupor. That is not easy at all, that extremely hard, especially considering the ridicule they get afterwards, and how disheartening it must be when it *still* doesn't prompt urgent action.

I also felt your comment about their use of petrochemicals in the glue was a cheap shot. Individuals can't invent systems or products in line with our care for the environment - we need governments and corporations to set up the infrastructure. That's on you as Parliamentarians, not on us as ordinary citizens.

That all being said - I do appreciate you recognising, and reminding others in your recent speech at an oil and gas industry event, that public attitudes are turning against fossil fuels and that a transition may not be orderly if it's not planned for.

I really appreciate you saying this, and I hope to see more of it.

Personally, I am thankful to the Extinction Rebellion for trying to snap us out this idea of 'gradualism'. I am highly anxious about what is happening. In the short term, I'm scared of another bushfire. In the long term, I don't want it to get to the point where our governments and industries are finally ready to act, only for it to be too late.

Please, will you encourage your Labor colleagues to reject plans for new coal and gas exploration, and hasten transition as fast as possible.

Thankyou for your attention to this matter.
I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



TO: MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINING
SUBJECT: PREMIER'S WELCOME TO THE 2023 APPEA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION DELEGATES

Decision/Action required by:	Routine
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Business Unit	Energy Resources Division	
Prepared by	Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety [Redacted]	17/01/22 <i>date</i>
A/Executive Director	Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety [Redacted]	17/01/22 <i>date</i>
CC		

Out of Scope

[Redacted]


.....
Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP
MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINING

/ / 2023

Comment
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Out of Scope



Out of Scope





Out of Scope

- The Conference is likely to be subject to anti-fossil fuel protests as per DEM's Roundtable for Oil and Gas and the Society of Petroleum Engineers Conference in Adelaide last year - despite all events having a strong energy transition focus. APPEA are taking event security and delegate safety extremely seriously in the face of claims by Extinction Rebellion that they will 'stop the conference'.

Out of Scope



TO: MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINING
SUBJECT: 2023 APPEA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

Decision/Action required by:	Routine
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Business Unit	Energy Resources Division	
Prepared by	<div style="background-color: black; color: red; font-size: small; padding: 2px;">Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety</div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px;"></div>	24/01/2023 <i>date</i>
A/Executive Director	<div style="background-color: black; color: red; font-size: small; padding: 2px;">Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety</div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px;"></div>	24/01/2023 <i>date</i>
CC	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 40px;"></div>	

Out of Scope

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Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP
MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINING

/ / 2023

Comment

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- APPEA conference organisers are taking event security and delegate safety extremely seriously in the face of claims by Extinction Rebellion that they will 'stop the conference'. Delegate badges will for the first time include photo identification and delegates will not be able to carry items over A4 size into presentations.



TO: MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINING
SUBJECT: 2023 APPEA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION - PROMOTIONS

Decision/Action required by:	Routine
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Business Unit	Energy Resources Division	
Prepared by	<div style="background-color: black; color: red; font-size: small;">Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety</div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 50px;"></div>	18/04/2023 <i>date</i>
A/Executive Director	<div style="background-color: black; color: red; font-size: small;">Clause 4 - Law enforcement and public safety</div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 50px;"></div>	18/04/2023 <i>date</i>
CC		

Out of Scope



.....
 Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP
MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINING
 / / 2023

Comment



Out of Scope

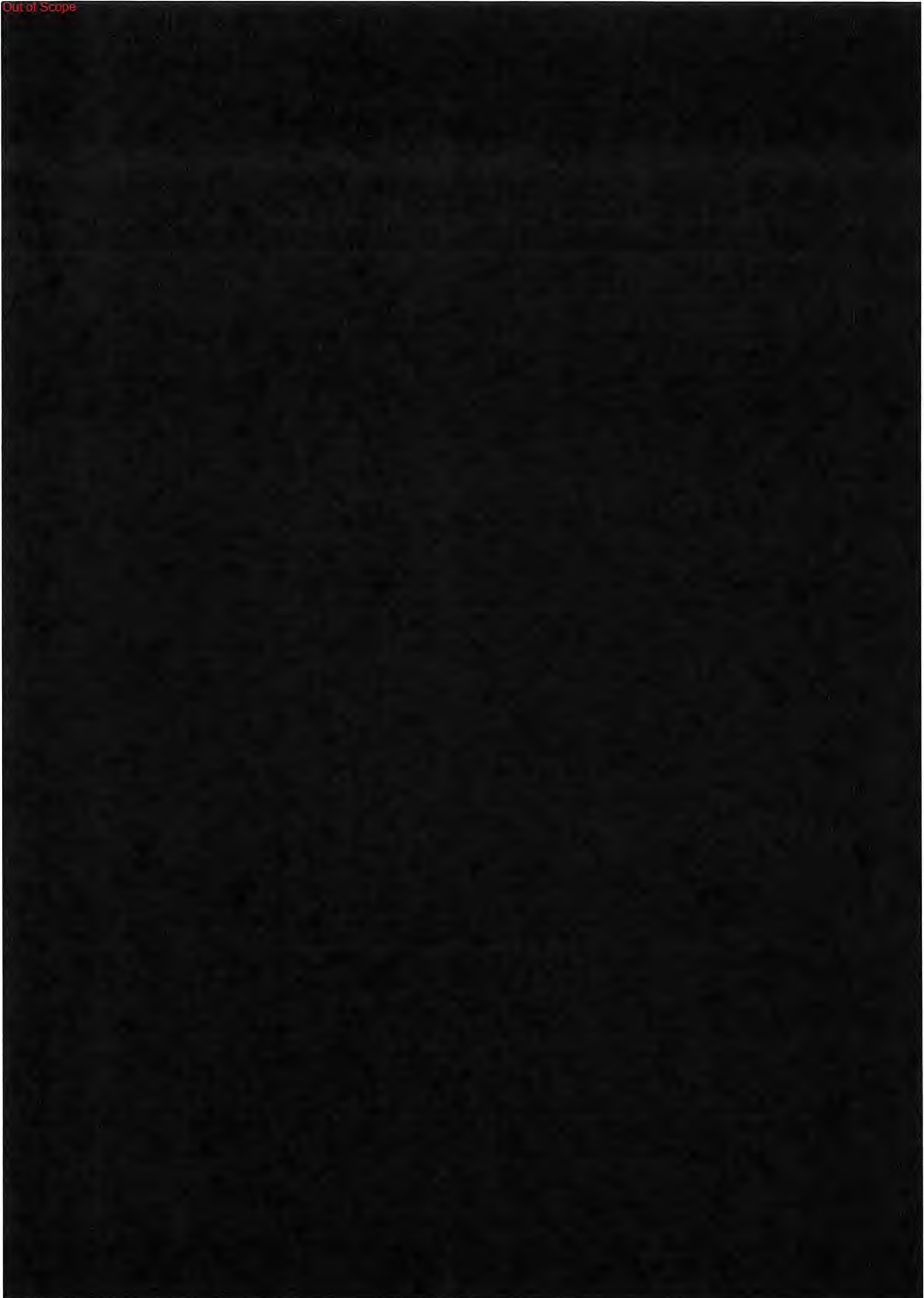
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Out of Scope

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DIT:Minister Koutsantonis

From: Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs
Sent: Friday, 19 May 2023 8:29 AM
To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis
Subject: 23MEM7726 - Changes to the bill to curb protest in public areas

You don't often get email from adcaon@internode.on.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Tom

I am absolutely disgusted by your government's draconian action to stifle public protest. There is a serious disconnect between the democratic right to highlight the immediate threats to life on earth and the importance to continued support of the fossil fuel corporations by all Labor governments in Australia.

I am not part of the Extinction Rebellion group and I am not a member of The Greens.

BUT I AM a concerned citizen.

Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs

DIT:Minister Koutsantonis

From: Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs
Sent: Saturday, 20 May 2023 8:13 AM
To: DIT:Minister Koutsantonis
Subject: 23MEM7746
Categories: Printed

You don't often get email from thewestins@adam.com.au. [Learn why this is important](#)
Minister

I have read your comments regarding the oil and gas industries and how much the state government values and welcomes them in SA. You even thanked them for "their largesse". Really?? You put our state at their disposal. REALLY?? This is the industry and people directly responsible for the climate crisis and for attempting for decades to deny the science and reality of climate change. They should be treated as criminals!

I am a long time labour supporter but your comments sucking up to these people are disgraceful. Extinction Rebellion are correct in this. Oil and gas should be driven out of town.

Sincerely
Clause 6 (1) - Personal Affairs