

Sound OPINION

Plan ahead

REGARDING a gas emergency reserve at Kwinana.

Despite the significance of the passage of this important bill for WA, public attention has been instead focused on the growing concerns over the crisis besetting the State's gas and energy supplies, dependent as they are on the integrity of the pipelines from Dampier.

Following a recent explosion of a gas pipeline in the North West, effectively wiping out one third of the State's gas supplies, businesses and homes in WA are facing one of the worst energy crises in the State's history.

However, as we brace ourselves for the impact of this disaster that will cost hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars in revenue to local businesses, the hard question we need to ask is why the State Government wasn't prepared for this crisis.

This crisis could have been

averted had the State Government kept an emergency reserve of gas in the South West, possibly near Kwinana, as a contingency against a possible failure of the gas pipeline from the Burrup Peninsula.

Now, without these reserves, factories are closing and people are losing their jobs.

We can only hope the Carpenter Government learns from the cost of its blatant disregard to future planning, and takes measures to ensure WA doesn't face this situation again.

The people of Kwinana deserve much better than to be granted Labor representation.

The forgotten people of Kwinana need to give the job to someone who can just get in there and get things done.

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