P.M. No. 90A/1966

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NATURAL GAS

Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Holt

The South Australian Premier today placed before us his State's request for finance necessary to install a natural gas supply pipeline.

Mr. Walsh is not contemplating a direct loan from the Commonwealth but did want various possibilities examined (point made in briefing only and not for attribution.... Most practical course, if acceptable to other Premiers, would be a special allocation under the semi-governmental programme)

The Premier handed over a documented case of 20 pages. This will require detailed study by appropriate departments and will then be considered by Cabinet. It will be dealt with as expeditiously as possible.

CANBERRA, 22nd September. 1966.