$3.50 | Friday, November 6, 2026 Gascoyne, Shark Bay $3.60, Pilbara, Kimberley $4.70. GST INC.

The West Australian

HEY BIG SPENDERS

BILL A PUBLIC DIS-SERVICE

STEPHEN JOHNSON

Australia's public service wages bill has surged by almost $3 billion at a time when the Albanese Government is being urged to rein in spending.

Just days after another brutal interest rate hike was lumped on households on the back of soaring inflation, new figures revealed a 7.2 per cent increase in Federal public sector pay to a whopping $43.8 billion.

The Prime Minister and his colleagues are denying their spending is fuelling the price of goods and services.

REPORTS PAGE 8



FOSSIL FOOLS

WE MUST BACK IN WA GAS: SAFFIOTI

JESSICA PAGE

Rita Saffioti has warned WA's economic future is being put at risk by environmental activists and ambiguous Commonwealth policies.

The Deputy Premier said resources companies needed to be confident that "very key decisions" were being made to support them after WA-based Woodside announced it was axing about 500 staff.

She vowed to always "go in to bat for gas" when asked if the cuts were a warning sign the energy giant could abandon WA. "We are a resources State. Let's be very strong about that," Ms Saffioti said.

FULL REPORT PAGE 10

THE DAVID JONES CLEARANCE SALE NOW ON

EVERYTHING MUST GO

SUPPLIERS STRIP SHELVES AS RETAILER ON VERGE OF COLLAPSE

Luxury brands were taking back their merchandise from the shelves at David Jones yesterday as the cash-strapped department store was placed in the hands of corporate undertakers.

It comes amid revelations the venerable retailer's flagship Perth CBD outlet was almost $1.5 million behind on its rent, with the landlord confirming it was pursuing replacement tenants. Images circulating on social media showed that brands including Sportscraft, Saba and Carla Zampatti had removed stock and fixtures from outlets in the Eastern States. Empty shelves were also seen at its Karrinyup store. David Jones will stay open for the time being as rescue plans are explored.

CHEYANNE ENCISO

FULL REPORTS PAGE 6-7

PERTH 15-31 Mostly sunny. Tomorrow: Sunny, 15-28. Yesterday: 11.2-28.0

Weather details P72

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