

FLYING FOX NICKEL MINE AND PENNY WEST GOLD DEPOSIT

5609. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

I refer to the Western Areas NL, Flying Fox Nickel Mine located south of Southern Cross; the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) Licence and Environmental Assessment Report dated 11 October 2007; and a paper titled 'Penny West Gold Deposit, Youanmi, WA' produced by Nigel Radford and Tim Boddington concerning the Youanmi gold mine located approximately 115km south, south west of Sandstone; and I ask -

- (1) Is it correct that an appeal was lodged in relation to the potential impact of the discharge of mine dewatering upon Lake Cronin to the north east of the mine and native vegetation surrounding the discharge points at the Flying Fox Nickel Mine?
- (2) If yes to (1), what were all the outcomes from the appeal?
- (3) If no to (1), what specifically happened with an appeal lodged for the Flying Fox Nickel Mine?
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that part of the Licence and Environmental Assessment Report dated 11 October 2007 referred to above states, 'These trigger levels are set to allow management of the discharge to prevent negative impact on the native vegetation and on the surface drainage. Investigation into rooting depths and potential impacts of raised saline water levels on the vegetation will be carried out and the trigger level may then require to be revised'?
- (5) If no to (4), will the Minister specifically quote what the Licence and Environmental Assessment Report states?
- (6) Is it correct that the paper titled 'Penny West Gold Deposit, Youanmi, WA', produced by Nigel Radford and Tim Boddington, in part states 'During mining, hairline rootlets were observed at least 30metres below surface; i.e. 20 metres into the residual regolith'?
- (7) If no to (6), can the Minister quote what specifically the paper states for the Penny West Gold Deposit?
- (8) Will the Minister table the paper titled 'Penny West Gold Deposit, Youanmi, WA' produced by Nigel Radford and Tim Boddington?
- (9) If no to (8), why not?

Hon SALLY TALBOT replied:

- (1) Yes, an appeal was lodged on the level of assessment and the potential impact of mine water discharge was one ground on which the appeal against the assessment level was based.
- (2) The appeal was dismissed. Information on the appeal determination is available from the Office of Appeal Convenors website at [www.appealsconvenor.wa.gov.au](http://www.appealsconvenor.wa.gov.au)
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Yes, but it must be noted that this paper was based on different plant species in different hydrogeological conditions.
- (7) Not applicable.
- (8) Yes. However, the paper is also available from the Cooperative Research Centre for Landscape Environments and Mineral Exploration at [www.crcleme.org.au](http://www.crcleme.org.au), or direct from <http://crcleme.org.au/RegExpOre/PennyWest.pdf>. [See paper 3596.]
- (9) Not applicable.