

NINGALOO MARINE PARK — WHALE SHARK INTERACTION TOURS

5648. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment
- (1) I refer to the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) licence to conduct commercial in water whale shark interaction tours within Ningaloo Marine Park, and I ask —
 - (a) How many Expressions of Interest were received in response to EOI 1 243 2008?
 - (2) In relation to (1), who were the EOIs from? Please specify Applicant, Trading Name and Access Point.
 - (3) Who was awarded a licence to commence 1 January 2009? Please specify Applicant, Trading Name and Access Point.
 - (4) Did one licence remain vacant at the start of the licence period?
 - (5) Was the vacancy reviewed after 3 years?
 - (6) If no to (5), why not?
 - (7) If yes to (5), who conducted the review and what was the result of the review?
 - (8) Who currently holds a licence? Please specify Applicant, Trading Name, Access Point and the licence expiry date.
 - (9) Which unsuccessful EOI 1 243 2008 applicants took up DEC's offer of a debrief regarding the assessment of their submissions and the EOI process?
 - (10) In relation to (9) —
 - (a) who provided the debrief; and
 - (b) who else was present representing DEC?
 - (11) Has any current or past holder of a licence or any of their associates, operators or staff been subject to investigation or review by DEC since 2008?
 - (12) If yes to (11) —
 - (a) what was the reason for the investigation;
 - (b) when was the investigation conducted;
 - (c) who was investigated; and who conducted the investigation?
 - (13) Has any current or past holder of a licence or any of their associates, operators or staff been issued with a caution notice by DEC since 2008?
 - (14) If yes to (13) —
 - (a) what was the reason for the caution notice;
 - (b) when was the caution notice issued; and
 - (c) who issued the caution notice?
 - (15) Has any current or past holder of a licence or any of their associates, operators or staff been issued with an infringement or a summons to appear in Court by DEC since 2008?
 - (16) If yes to (15) —
 - (a) what was the reason for the infringement or summons;
 - (b) when was the infringement or summons issued;
 - (c) who issued the infringement or summons; and
 - (d) what was the outcome of the infringement or summons being issued?
 - (17) Are there any ongoing investigations or reviews of licence holders or any of their associates, operators or staff?
 - (18) If yes to (17) —
 - (a) what is the reason for the investigation;
 - (b) who is being investigated; and who is conducting the investigation?
 - (19) How often does DEC meet with licence holders to review the licence conditions?

(20) In relation to (19) —

- (a) on what dates have these meetings been held since 1 January 2009;
- (b) who has been in attendance at each of these meetings; and
- (c) what changes to licence conditions have been made as a result of these reviews?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

(1)–(20) [See paper 4807.]