

KALGOORLIE CONSOLIDATED GOLD MINES PTY LTD — COMMUNITY CONCERNS IN RELATION
TO SUPER PIT OPERATION

6023. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

I refer to questions on notice No 3206 of 1 December 2005 and 90 of 22 August 2002; a newspaper article titled 'Super Pit a super Headache' which appeared in *the Sunday Times* newspaper on 14 July 1991; a letter signed by the Chief Executive Officer, Ian Burston from Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines (KCGM) dated 28 July 1992 addressed to a Government resident's sub committee seeking information concerning mining intentions west of the Bypass Road; an article titled 'Super Pit-Where from, where to?', which appeared in a magazine called 'A Celebration of Mining May 2007', in *the Kalgoorlie Miner* newspaper, and I ask -

- (1) Is it correct that *the Sunday Times* newspaper article dated 14 July 1991 states, 'Houses close to the mine were in place when there was no open- cut mining in the town'?
- (2) If no to (1), what specifically does the newspaper article dated 14 July 1991 state?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the newspaper article dated 14 July 1991 states, 'We have been constantly frustrated in our attempts to have environmental standards enforced and compensation for relocating homes too close to the Super Pit'?
- (4) If no to (3), will the Minister clearly make himself fully informed of the history of the KCGM super pit operations?
- (5) If yes to (3), how did the Minister become aware of this statement made in the newspaper article dated 14 July 1991?
- (6) Is the Minister aware that in 1991, many properties near the proposed super pit operations were leased and others were occupied by squatters without any form of zoning close to the expanding super pit operations?
- (7) If yes to (6), how did the Minister become aware of this and on what specific date?
- (8) If no to (6), will the Minister make himself aware of this in order to understand that all forms of housing and premises, not necessarily with any zoning, were close to expanding super pit operations in 1991?
- (9) Is it correct that a letter signed by the Chief Executive Officer, Ian Burston from KCGM dated 28 July 1992, addressed to a government resident's sub committee in part states 'Below this area is a deposit known as the Golden Pike, which if mined, would be by underground mining methods'?
- (10) If no to (9), will the Minister quote the full text from this letter dated 28 July 1992?
- (11) Does the Minister understand that hundreds of people have relied upon those written representations that the Golden Pike ore body was to be mined by underground mining methods as stated by Mr Ian Burston from KCGM in the letter dated 28 July 1992 to plan their future with respect to all premises in Boulder?
- (12) If no to (11), why not?
- (13) Is the Minister aware that the Stage 3 Golden Pike ore body can be mined, or planned to be mined, by underground mining methods via a decline off the super pit operations and included in the study to commence underground mining once the surface operations have ceased?

Hon SALLY TALBOT replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The Minister is aware that the newspaper article quotes Mr Baker.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) A copy of the article was faxed to the Minister's office.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) The Minister has been informed by the Department of Environment and Conservation in answer to this question that this was the case in 1991 (Mitchell McCotter, Golden Mile Social Impact Study, June 1991).
- (8) Not applicable.
- (9) Yes.

- (10) Not applicable.
- (11)-(12) The Minister is not aware of how many people may have relied upon KCGM's statement in 1992.
- (13) No.