

LNG PRECINCT, KIMBERLEY — CLEARING PERMITS

637. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the recently granted clearing permits for the proposed James Price Point gas hub.

- (1) Who did the Department of Environment and Conservation consult in the process of granting the clearing permits?
- (2) What are the conditions of these permits?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) A clearing permit was granted to Woodside Energy Limited on 30 July 2010 to clear 25 hectares for the purpose of geotechnical and hydrological investigations. A copy of the granted permit and the report are available on the Department of Environment and Conservation's website. DEC consulted with the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority, the Department of Water, the Department of State Development, the Kimberley Land Council, the Shire of Broome and the proponents, Woodside Energy Limited. Native title claimants, the Goolarabooloo and Jabir Jabir peoples, were also notified. In addition DEC sought comments on the clearing applications over a 21-day public submission period. Eleven submissions were received and considered during the assessment of the application.
- (2) Conditions are set out in part II of the clearing permit, which is available in full on DEC's website. In summary, the permit conditions include requirements to avoid or minimise the amount of clearing; prepare an environmental management plan, which must be approved by DEC's CEO prior to clearing; minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds; and rehabilitate areas no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared.