

EXPLORATION INCENTIVE SCHEME

829. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the royalties for regions-funded exploration incentive scheme.

- (1) Who makes the decision to awards funds to companies for exploration under this scheme?
- (2) Are those decisions passed by cabinet?

Hon NORMAN MOORE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Department of Mines and Petroleum, with the endorsement of the co-funded drilling program advisory committee. This is a stakeholder committee comprising appropriately qualified representatives from the resources industry and the minerals research sector, which is chaired by DMP's director general. The whole process involving the committee's assessment of and decisions regarding applications for funding is subject to an external probity audit.
- (2) No.