

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD — EMERGENCY DRILLING CONTRACTS

1165. Hon KATE DOUST to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

How many contracts have been awarded by the Department of Agriculture and Food to Global Groundwater, Advanced Bore Services Pty Ltd and Austral Drilling Services for the period 2012 to date and what was —

- (a) the purpose of the contract;
- (b) the contracted price; and
- (c) the procurement method involved; for example open tender, selective tender or direct sourcing?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

Two contracts have been awarded to each of the contractors.

- (a) Contracts awarded in late 2013 were for an emergency drilling program to alleviate a critical water shortage at Carnarvon. Contracts awarded in 2014 are to expand the northern bore field as a planned activity of the Gascoyne food bowl initiative.
- (b) The total contracted price for emergency drilling in 2013 was \$300 000. Contracted prices for 2014 are: Global Groundwater, \$1.4 million; Advanced Bore Services, \$1.253 million; and Austral Drilling, \$2.71 million.
- (c) Emergency drilling in 2013 was by selective tender. Contracts in 2014 were awarded through an open tender process managed by the Department of Finance and validated by the tender review committee.