

LANDCORP SUBDIVISIONS - STATUTORY DECLARATIONS

1137. Hon KEN BASTON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

I refer to the reply to question without notice 1099 of 21 November 2006 confirming that LandCorp requires purchasers to verify through statutory declarations that they are buying blocks in the Tambrey subdivision on their own behalf.

- (1) Since February 2001, have there been instances in any LandCorp land releases with that stipulation in which it has been subsequently found that false declarations were made; and, if so, expressed in terms of named land releases, how many false declarations are known to have been made in each land release and what action was taken by LandCorp?
- (2) What incident or incidents prompted the minister to personally direct that statutory declarations should be strengthened in subsequent ballots?

Hon KATE DOUST replied:

On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Port Hedland, Pretty Pool ballot. During the ballot, concern was raised that parties not resident or with business interests in Port Hedland had signed statutory declarations to the effect that they were. Subsequent to the ballot, all successful applicants' documents were scrutinised. The Western Australian Electoral Commission then contacted a number of applicants to verify the accuracy of their statutory declarations. Following this, five applicants withdrew their ballots.
- (2) After discussion with the minister, the terms of the statutory declaration were clarified and strengthened and included reference to the effects of false testimony.