

WATER RESOURCES — HYDRAULIC FRACKING

613. Hon Robin Chapple to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Water:

In relation to advice provided by the Department of Water to the Department of Mines and Petroleum on the effects of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) on freshwater resources anywhere in the State, I ask:

- (a) what is the nature and substance of the advice that the Department of Water provides to the Department of Mines and Petroleum as regards hydraulic fracturing (fracking) proposals;
- (b) how many times has the Department of Water provided advice to the Department of Mines and Petroleum about fracking proposals anywhere in the State during the past five years;
- (c) which fracking projects has the Department of Water provided advice to the Department of Mines and Petroleum on;
- (d) will the Minister please table all of the advice that the Department of Water has provided to the Department of Mines and Petroleum with regard to fracking proposals in the past five years; and
- (e) if no to (d), why not?

Hon Col Holt replied:

- (a) The Department of Water has provided technical advice and comments in relation to the development of the environmental regulations and the resource regulations under the Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967, that addressed critical issues related to environmental plans, well integrity and construction.
- (b) Nil. The Department of Water has not provided advice to the Department of Mines and Petroleum regarding proposals because no referrals pursuant to the Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967 have been made by the Department of Mines and Petroleum to the Department of Water, in the period identified.
- (c)–(e) Not applicable.