

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM — MINE BARRIERS — CORONER'S FINDINGS

**360. Hon LYNN MacLAREN to the minister representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:**

I ask this question on behalf of Hon Robin Chapple, who is away on urgent parliamentary business.

I refer to the article “Coroner urges mine barriers” on page 7 of *The West Australian* of Monday, 31 March.

- (1) Will the minister make regulations or instruct the Department of Mines and Petroleum to ensure that licence conditions comply with the coroner's findings?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

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

- (1) No.
- (2) The Department of Mines and Petroleum is working to modernise the Mines Safety and Inspection Act 1994, in line with the nationally harmonised Model Work Health and Safety Regulations. The proposed new legislation will require an operator of a mine to prepare principal mining hazard management plans to identify all key risks in their operations and to implement and document risk-management strategies to manage those risks. In the case mentioned by the coroner, this would include having appropriate barriers in place if equipment is required to work near an edge.