

ENVIRONMENT — MUNGADA RIDGE A-CLASS RESERVE

3997. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Environment:

- (1) Further to Question on Notice No. 3187 in which the Minister for Mines and Petroleum has refused to take responsibility for implementing the Premier's 2009 commitment to establish an A-class reserve on Mungada Ridge, what specific action has the Minister for Environment taken to implement the conservation promise?
- (2) Does the Minister expect to implement the promise in this term of Government?
- (3) Has the Minister met with representatives of the company (Karara) to complain about its failure to relinquish the tenement?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?

Mr A.P. Jacob replied:

- (1) The Department of Parks and Wildlife, and its predecessor agency, the Department of Environment and Conservation, has been corresponding with Karara Mining Limited (KML) regarding this matter since 2009, and has been keeping me informed, specifically in relation to the company's previous commitment to relinquish the affected mining tenement on Mungada Ridge.
- (2) The relinquishment of KML's tenement will need to precede the establishment of a reserve in the affected area. In September 2014, KML indicated an intention to further explore the mineral potential of the tenement using infill drilling and investigate the feasibility of a proposal for a mining operation within this area. Any proposed infill exploration or mining in the area is subject to the relevant government assessment and approvals provisions of State legislation.
- (3) I met with KML representatives regarding this matter last year and indicated that the Government's intention to establish the reserve has not changed.
- (4) Not applicable.