

MINES AND PETROLEUM — EXISTING BONDS — MINING OPERATIONS

3290. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the article in *The West Australian* on 3 July, 2015 entitled “Fund may foot Ellendale bill”, and question on notice No. 1296 answered on 19 August 2014, and ask:

- (a) how many bonds still exist over current mining operations;
- (b) will the Minister provide a list of these mining operations, the number of bonds held by each mining operation, the amount of each of these individual bonds held, and the total of the bonds held for each mining operation;
- (c) if no to (b), why not;
- (d) how many bonds still exist over non-operating mining operations;
- (e) will the Minister provide a list of these mining operations, the number of bonds held by each mining operation, the amount of each of these individual bonds held, and the total of the bonds held for each mining operation;
- (f) if no to (e), why not;
- (g) prior to the advent of the Mining Rehabilitation Fund, how many environmental bonds were held by mining operations and non-operating mining operations;
- (h) will the Minister provide a list of these mining operations, the number of bonds held by each mining operation, the amount of each of these individual bonds held, and the total of the bonds held for each mining operation;
- (i) if no to (h), why not;
- (j) as part of the transition to the Mining Rehabilitation Fund, how many environmental bonds have now been retired;
- (k) did the Ellendale mine have any bonds at any time;
- (l) if yes to (k), how many, and of what value by amount and percentage of the estimated rehabilitation costs;
- (m) have any of the original bonds been retired;
- (n) if yes to (m), how many, and of what value by amount and percentage of the estimated rehabilitation costs;
- (o) how much has Ellendale contributed to the Mining Rehabilitation Fund by year, amount per year, and in total;
- (p) what is the estimated cost of rehabilitation for the Ellendale operation;
- (q) if not known to (p), why not;
- (r) will the Directors of the Kimberley Diamonds Ltd, Mr Rod Sainty, Mr Yong Xiao, Mr Rupert Baring or Mr Noel Halgreen, or Kimberley Diamonds Ltd be allowed to operate in Western Australia in any other mining ventures until the Ellendale site has been rehabilitated; and
- (s) if yes to (r), why?

Hon Ken Baston replied:

The Department of Mines and Petroleum advises:

- (a) 201
- (b) [See tabled paper no 3274.]
- (c) Not applicable
- (d) 14
- (e) [See tabled paper no 3274.]
- (f) Not applicable
- (g) 5 522
- (h) No

- (i) The Members request is very broad and would require a significant input of the State's resources to answer. If the member has a specific question relating to a particular bond or project, he should ask directly
- (j) 4 581
- (k) Yes
- (l) 25 separate Unconditional Performance Bonds have applied to the Ellendale mine since 1995, although not all of these Unconditional Performance Bonds have applied at the same time. The value of each of these Unconditional Performance Bonds is listed —
[See tabled paper no 3274.]
The value of the Unconditional Performance Bonds were set in accordance with the Government's policy for Unconditional Performance Bonds that applied at the time.
- (m) Yes, all of them.
- (n) See (l) and (m) above.
- (o) For the period 2013: \$404 595.00;
For the Period 2014: \$414 231.40;
Total : \$818 826.40.
- (p) The estimated cost of rehabilitation for the Ellendale Mine is approximately \$40 million.
- (q) Not applicable
- (r) This is a matter for the Australian Securities and Investment Corporation.
- (s) Not applicable