

**Division 43: Planning, Lands and Heritage — Service 2, Lands, \$65 421 000—**

Mr D.A.E. Scaife, Chair.

Mr J.N. Carey, Minister for Lands.

Mr A. Kannis, Director General.

Mr M. Darcey, Assistant Director General, Land Use Management.

Mr D. Corr, Executive Director, Land Use Management.

Ms A. Gibson, Executive Director, Land Use Management.

Mr M. Hanrahan, Chief Financial Officer.

Ms C. Comrie, Chief of Staff, Minister for Lands.

Ms J. Lim, Policy Adviser.

[Witnesses introduced.]

**The CHAIR:** The estimates committees will be reported by Hansard and the daily proof will be available online as soon as possible within two business days. The chair will allow as many questions as possible. Questions and answers should be short and to the point. Consideration is restricted to items for which a vote of money is proposed in the consolidated account. Questions must relate to a page number, item or amount related to the current division, and members should preface their questions with those details. Some divisions are the responsibility of more than one minister. Ministers shall be examined only in relation to their portfolio responsibilities.

A minister may agree to provide supplementary information to the committee. I will ask the minister to clearly indicate what information they agree to provide and will then allocate a reference number. Supplementary information should be provided to the principal clerk by 12 noon on Friday, 2 June 2023. If a minister suggests that a matter be put on notice, members should use the online questions on notice system to submit their questions.

I give the call to the member for Roe.

[9.30 pm]

**Mr P.J. RUNDLE:** I refer to page 715 and “Amendments to the *Land Administration 1997 Act*” under significant issues impacting the agency. Pursuant to our recent discussions with the legislation that went through Parliament in relation to the policy framework for diversification leases and unlocking the economic potential of unutilised land et cetera, can the minister outline the timing for that policy to be released and the extent of stakeholder engagement?

**Mr J.N. CAREY:** I thank the member for the question. As he knows, that framework is about the decision-making processes used to consider how we select and choose a diversification lease proponent. We went out for consultation. That feedback has now been received and we are giving it consideration. I understand that we got extensive feedback. I ask the director whether there is any further information.

**Ms A. Gibson:** There was quite a considerable number of public submissions. As a result of those submissions, we have recommended to the minister for consideration of at least 35 alterations to the policy.

**Mr P.J. RUNDLE:** Given we had copious discussions at the consideration in detail stage and the like, has the minister given any further thought to support for some of these landholders who may have potentially two or three different uses on their diversification lease and the support that they will need, whether it be legal support or consultation or whatever?

**Mr J.N. CAREY:** In short, ultimately, these decisions are between private entities. For example, someone may approach a pastoral lease holder and they will enter into discussions and come to a commercial arrangement. That is the free market. Our role is to provide support for Indigenous land use agreements. As the member would be aware, that is required. Understanding that that can be new to people, we provide support in that regard. But it is not the role of the state to be involved or provide support in negotiations between a pastoral lease owner and another private proponent, whether it is a hydrogen, tourism or carbon proponent or any other proponents. I do not think the state should actually be involved in providing that sort of support because there are commercial decisions to be made.

**Mr P.J. RUNDLE:** I think, as I pointed out at the time, that it is the complexity of dealing with perhaps three or four or whatever different entities that might be challenge for a pastoral industry. But I will let that one go.

**Ms L. METTAM:** I refer to page 714 and new initiatives. I note the funding associated with “Tjiwarl Palyakuwa Indigenous Land Use Agreement”. It was confidential pending the conclusion of its registration, which I understand would have happened or was to occur late this month.

**Mr J.N. CAREY:** Sorry, member; that is not my portfolio. Lands also reports to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, so it is under him.

**Extract from *Hansard***

[ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B — Thursday, 25 May 2023]

p492b-493a

Chair; Mr Peter Rundle; Mr John Carey; Ms Libby Mettam

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**Ms L. METTAM:** I assume that is the same with cultural heritage.

**Mr J.N. CAREY:** Yes, it is; I am sorry. We will move on.

**The appropriation was recommended.**