

BKM 102 BEACHING, BARROW ISLAND — ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE

3787. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Transport

I refer to the below-waterline damage, beaching on Barrow Island, and subsequent towing to Dampier of the vessel 'BKM 102' operated by Boskalis Ltd, which resulted in the damage and contamination to surrounding waters visible in photographs entitled '2011-01 BK102 Hull Damage.pdf', available at www.robinchapple.com/qdata, and ask —

- (1) Was the BKM 102 assessed as seaworthy prior to being towed to Dampier?
- (2) If no to (1) —
 - (a) what was the justification given for towing the vessel to Dampier; and
 - (b) who made the decision to tow the vessel to Dampier?
- (3) If yes to (1), who carried out that assessment?
- (4) Were safety concerns raised by crew members over the decision to tow the vessel to Dampier?
- (5) If yes to (4), were these concerns addressed by the company?
- (6) If no to (5), were all or some of the crew members stood down and replaced?
- (7) If yes to (5), did all of the same crew members operate the BKM 102 during the towing operation?
- (8) If no to (7) —
 - (a) who operated the BKM 102; and
 - (b) how many crew members were on board the vessel during the towing operation?
- (9) Was the Dampier Port Authority notified by the operators of the BKM 102 that a damaged vessel was entering the port prior to the vessel entering port limits?
- (10) If yes to (9), when was this notification received?
- (11) If no to (9), why not?
- (12) Was permission sought or acquired from Department of Transport prior to the movement of the holed BKM 102?
- (13) If no to (12), why not?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

The Department of Transport advises:

- (1) Yes
- (2) Not applicable
- (3) Bureau Veritas.
- (4) None that the Department of Transport is aware of.
- (5) Not applicable
- (6) The Department of Transport has no authority to deal with employment issues and has no information on this matter.
- (7)-(8) Not applicable
- (9) No
- (10) Not applicable
- (11) The Dampier Port Authority is not aware of the reasons behind the decision not to notify the Harbour Master or Chief Executive Officer, as required under the Port Authorities Regulations 2001, Part 2 Division 2 Regulation (9) Subregulation (1)(a). The vessel owner has been reminded of their obligation to comply with this regulation.
- (12) No
- (13) There is no requirement to notify the Department of Transport.

