

SHARK DRUM LINE PROGRAM

**103. Hon LYNN MacLAREN to the Minister for Fisheries:**

I refer to the government's media statement of 27 December 2013 that lists stakeholders that the government consulted about its new policy of using baited drum lines to catch sharks.

- (1) Please name the job titles of all the individuals at each of the following government agencies whom the government consulted about its plan to use drum lines to capture and kill large sharks prior to announcing the strategy on 10 December 2013 —
  - (a) Department of Fisheries;
  - (b) Department of Parks and Wildlife; and
  - (c) Environmental Protection Authority.
- (2) Did any of those consulted from the above organisations advise that the baited hook drum lines would reduce shark attacks?
- (3) Please give the names of the “more than 40 shark experts” from various Australian universities whom the government consulted about its plan to use drum lines to capture and kill large sharks prior to announcing the strategy on 10 December 2013.

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

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

- (1) Consultation was conducted during early December 2013 by the office of Minister Buswell, then Minister for Fisheries, with a wide variety of water users.
  - (a) The director general was consulted, as were representatives of the research division and regional services division.
  - (b) The director general and at least one other policy adviser were consulted.
  - (c) Not applicable. The Office of the Environmental Protection Authority was notified of the policy following its release.
- (2) There was a broad appreciation of the shark mitigation strategies already in place and that consideration needed to be given to additional measures.
- (3) Local, national and international research institutions, including the University of Western Australia, Bond University, the University of Sydney, James Cook University, the CSIRO and the Marine Conservation Science Institute, were approached for input, as were representatives from a range of organisations, including commercial fishing industries, commercial fishing peak bodies and recreational water user groups, including Surfing WA, PADI Aware, Mullaloo Surf Life Saving Club and boardrider associations.