

WORLD SHALE OIL AND GAS SUMMIT

1252. Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE to the minister representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

My question is with regard to the World Shale Oil and Gas Summit in Dallas on 4–7 November 2014.

- (1) In what capacity and on whose authority will acting executive director, petroleum approvals, Department of Mines and Petroleum, Mr Jeff Haworth, attend the summit and address the session titled “International Prospects: The Very Latest Updates from Countries That Are Prioritising Shale”?
- (2) Is it appropriate for a senior public servant to be promoting shale oil and gas developments on the world stage while simultaneously having responsibility for holding the industry to account by applying state government regulations; and, if not, why not?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

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

The Department of Mines and Petroleum advises —

- (1) Mr Haworth will be attending the World Shale Oil and Gas Summit in his capacity as executive director, petroleum.
- (2) Yes. This summit provides a forum for the executive director, petroleum, to present and explain in detail Western Australia’s leading practices in regulating the shale and tight gas industry, specifically well design, environmental protection and water management.