

SELECT COMMITTEE INTO MINING ON PINJIN STATION

Establishment — Motion

HON ROBIN SCOTT (Mining and Pastoral) [3.46 pm]: I move —

- (1) A Select Committee into Mining on Pinjin Station be established.
- (2) The select committee is to inquire into mining operations on Pinjin station, with particular reference to the following —
 - (a) the mining operations by Hawthorn Resources Limited, ABN 44 009 157 439;
 - (b) the role of government agencies and ministers in the approval and regulation of mining operations;
 - (c) all allegations, including those of intimidation, abuse and racial discrimination, set out in the documentation tabled in the Legislative Council on 26 June 2018 (tabled paper 1489) and other allegations dating back to 2012;
 - (d) actions of all parties relevant to mining operations, including but not limited to mine operators, pastoral leaseholders, government agencies and their employees and agents;
 - (e) responses by ministers and government agencies to complaints;
 - (f) the actions of any other persons or bodies associated with mining operations;
 - (g) reasons why the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, formerly the Department of Mines and Petroleum, and successive ministers have not approved the incorporation of the common reserve 10041 into the Pinjin station pastoral lease; and
 - (h) any other related matter.
- (3) The select committee is to report no later than six months after the committee has been established.
- (4) The select committee shall consist of five members; Hon Robin Scott (chair), Hon Robin Chapple, Hon Jacqui Boydell, Hon Kyle McGinn and Hon Michael Mischin (deputy chair).

I want to express my thanks to the Leader of the House for the help and cooperation I have received in moving the establishment of this select committee during government time. I am confident that all members of this house are sympathetic to the plight of anyone who has been harassed or intimidated by any organisation that may consider itself above the law. This particular situation is very rare. Mining companies and pastoralists normally exist in harmony, and should a disagreement occur, it is usually solved quickly and amicably. This select committee will competently assess whether wrongs have been done; and, if so, make appropriate recommendations for righting those wrongs.

HON SUE ELLERY (South Metropolitan — Leader of the House) [3.49 pm]: I indicate that the government will be supporting the establishment of a select committee into mining on Pinjin station. I point out at the outset that that does not mean that we necessarily share the views, some of which have been expressed by Hon Robin Scott, about various matters in respect of this issue. However, it is clearly the case that the issues need to be ventilated, and the appropriate way for that to happen is through a select committee. Therefore, we are happy to support the establishment of this committee.

HON PETER COLLIER (North Metropolitan — Leader of the Opposition) [3.49 pm]: I reinforce the comments of the Leader of the House. The opposition will also be supporting this motion. Hon Robin Scott is very passionate about this issue and has made several pleas to the house for something to be done. The best and most appropriate manner in which this house can investigate this situation is through the establishment of a select committee. For those reasons, the opposition will be supporting the motion.

HON ROBIN CHAPPLE (Mining and Pastoral) [3.50 pm]: The Greens will also be supporting this motion. Having just finished with one committee inquiry, it looks as though I will now find myself in another one.

HON MARTIN ALDRIDGE (Agricultural) [3.50 pm]: I indicate on behalf of the Nationals WA, while Hon Jacqui Boydell, the Leader of the National Party, is away from the chamber on urgent parliamentary business, that the National Party will be supporting the motion; and, indeed, the Leader of the National Party in this place will be represented as one of the five members on the select committee.

Question put and passed.