

WESTERN DESERT LANDS ABORIGINAL CORPORATION — MINE NEGOTIATIONS

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

My question was originally to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs but it has been redirected to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

Given that the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations has put the Western Desert Lands Aboriginal Corporation under special administration for reasons relating to its use of finance and methods of governance, I ask —

- (1) Does the government have any concerns about the validity of the Kintyre uranium mine negotiations?
- (2) Does the government have any concerns about the validity of the Lake Disappointment potash mine negotiations?
- (3) Does the government have any concerns about the validity of the Lake Dora potash mine negotiations?
- (4) If yes to (1), (2) or (3), will any of these projects be reassessed?
- (5) If no to any of the above, is the government confident that due process was undertaken with regard to each of these projects?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

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

The Department of Mines and Petroleum advises —

- (1)–(3) No, the only statutory obligation to enter into negotiations is under the commonwealth Native Title Act 1993 and proper procedures set out under this legislation have been carried out.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Yes.