

EMPIRE OIL AND GAS NL — EXPLORATION PERMIT 389

627. Hon MARTIN ALDRIDGE to the minister representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to question without notice 602 answered on 17 June 2014.

- (1) When and by whom was the contamination detected within exploration permit 389?
- (2) When was the Department of Mines and Petroleum notified of the contamination?
- (3) When did the Minister for Mines and Petroleum become aware of the contamination?
- (4) What is the extent of the contamination?
- (5) Is the site on the register of contaminated sites under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003?
- (6) When were the landowner and neighbouring landowners notified of the contamination and by whom?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The Department of Mines and Petroleum advises —

- (1) The initial complaint was received by the then Department of Environment and Conservation's pollution unit on 29 March 2011.
- (2) The DEC pollution unit notified DMP on 5 April 2011.
- (3) The issue came to the attention of the Minister for Mines and Petroleum in the second half of 2013.
- (4) The suspected contamination was investigated by DEC, now the Department of Environment Regulation, under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003. DMP is now assessing a site rehabilitation plan based on the recent groundwater monitoring that indicates there is now no contamination.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) DMP does not have this information, noting that the permit holder is also the landowner.