REPORT 32
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION
PILBARA PORTS ASSETS (DISPOSAL) BILL 2015 – EXTENSION OF TIME

Presented by Hon Robyn McSweeney MLC (Chair)

May 2016
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Date first appointed:
17 August 2005

Terms of Reference:
The following is an extract from Schedule 1 of the Legislative Council Standing Orders:

“4. Legislation Committee
4.1 A Legislation Committee is established.
4.2 The Committee consists of 5 Members.
4.3 The functions of the Committee are to consider and report on any Bill referred by the Council.
4.4 Unless otherwise ordered, any amendment recommended by the Committee must be consistent with the policy of a Bill.”

Members as at the time of this inquiry:
Hon Robyn McSweeney MLC (Chair)        Hon Dave Grills MLC
Hon Donna Faragher MLC (until 6 April 2016)        Hon Ken Baston (from 6 April 2016)
Hon Robin Chapple MLC (substitute for Hon Lynn MacLaren MLC)        Hon Ken Travers MLC (Deputy Chair) (substitute for Hon Dr Sally Talbot MLC)

Staff as at the time of this inquiry:
Irina Lobeto-Ortega (Advisory Officer (Legal))        Lauren Mesiti (Committee Clerk)

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On 22 March 2016, the Legislative Council referred the Pilbara Ports Assets (Disposal) Bill 2015 (Bill) to the Standing Committee on Legislation (Committee) for consideration and report by no later than 17 May 2016.

Pursuant to the motion of reference, the Committee has also been given the power to inquire into and report on the policy of the Bill.

As part of this inquiry, the Committee has contacted stakeholders and sought submissions relevant to the Bill. The Committee has encountered difficulties in scheduling regular meetings and hearings to progress this inquiry due to a concurrent inquiry being undertaken by the Committee with a very similar reporting date.\(^1\)

The Committee also notes that the Legislative Council 2016-17 Budget Estimates hearings are scheduled for mid-June, which impacts upon the availability and workload of Committee Members and departmental representatives.

On 28 April 2016, the Committee resolved to seek the leave of the Legislative Council to extend the date by which the Committee is to report on the Bill from 17 May 2016 to 25 August 2016.

This extension is requested to enable the Committee to properly discharge its reporting obligations to the Legislative Council in light of the Committee’s current workload, the complexities surrounding the Bill and the upcoming 2016-17 Budget Estimates hearings.

The Committee therefore requests an extension of time in which to report from 17 May 2016 to 25 August 2016.

Hon Robyn McSweeney MLC
Chair
10 May 2016

\(^1\) The Legislative Council referred the Mining Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 to the Committee for consideration and report by 10 May 2016.