

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

QUESTIONS

No. 134

Tuesday, 8 May 2007

Questions appear according to the date on which notice was delivered.
When a question has been answered it is removed from the postponed list.

POSTPONED QUESTIONS

Notice Given **Wednesday, 6 December 2006**

4443. Hon Simon O'Brien to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)

Notice Given **Tuesday, 20 March 2007**

4448. Hon Ray Halligan to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4453. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4454. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4455. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4456. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4458. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4459. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)

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Postponed Questions

4460. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4461. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4462. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4463. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4464. Hon George Cash to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4469. Hon Ken Baston to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4476. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Multicultural Interests and Citizenship (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4478. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4509. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4514. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4515. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for South West (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4519. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Corrective Services (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4520. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Small Business (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4521. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4533. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4564. Hon Ray Halligan to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4570. Hon Ray Halligan to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for South West (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4574. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Corrective Services (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4575. Hon Ray Halligan to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Small Business (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)

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4576. Hon Ray Halligan to the Leader of the House representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4588. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4609. Hon Ray Halligan to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4619. Hon Ray Halligan to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4624. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4625. Hon Ray Halligan to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for South West (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4643. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4665. Hon Ray Halligan to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4674. Hon Ray Halligan to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4679. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)
4680. Hon Ray Halligan to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for South West (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)

Notice Given **Tuesday, 27 March 2007**

4695. Hon George Cash to the Leader of the House representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations
4697. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Corrective Services

Notice Given **Thursday, 29 March 2007**

4699. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
4700. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources
4701. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

Notice Given **Tuesday, 3 April 2007**

4702. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources
4703. Hon Norman Moore to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
4705. Hon Helen Morton to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy

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Postponed Questions

- 4706. Hon Norman Moore to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 4707. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4708. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4709. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

Notice Given ***Wednesday, 4 April 2007***

- 4710. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 4711. Hon Barry House to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 4712. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 4713. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Resources
- 4714. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 4715. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4716. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4717. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4718. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 4719. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Industry and Enterprise
- 4720. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4721. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4723. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4724. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 4725. Hon Simon O'Brien to the Minister for Local Government
- 4726. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

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Postponed Questions

4728. Hon Anthony Fels to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Public Sector Management

4729. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Notice Given *Thursday, 5 April 2007*

4731. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

4732. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources

4736. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy

4737. Hon Anthony Fels to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

4739. Hon Anthony Fels to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

4740. Hon Anthony Fels to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Resources

4741. Hon Anthony Fels to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

Notice Given *Tuesday, 1 May 2007*

4742. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

4743. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

4744. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

4745. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

4746. Hon George Cash to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Corrective Services

4747. Hon George Cash to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health

4748. Hon George Cash to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

4749. Hon George Cash to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

4750. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

4751. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

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Postponed Questions

- 4752. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 4753. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 4754. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health
- 4755. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
- 4756. Hon Norman Moore to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Housing and Works
- 4758. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 4759. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Attorney General
- 4760. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4761. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Forestry
- 4762. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources
- 4763. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

Notice Given ***Wednesday, 2 May 2007***

- 4764. Hon Ken Baston to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 4765. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources
- 4766. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4767. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Forestry
- 4768. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4769. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 4770. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4771. Hon Norman Moore to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

Notice Given ***Thursday, 3 May 2007***

- 4772. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources
- 4773. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources
- 4774. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources
- 4775. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

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Postponed Questions

4778. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

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QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

Notice given**Tuesday, 8 May 2007**

4779. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources

In answers to question Nos' 2090 and 2092 in regard to water licence administration fees to be introduced from July 2007, the Minister said the fees are based on recovering the \$5.8 million cost of administering water licences and advised of the percent proportion for the administrative functions. The Minister said the proportions were based on calculations within the discussion papers attached to the State Water Strategy Water Reform Program. Making the assumption this refers to table seven page 35 in A draft Blueprint for Water Reform in Western Australia (July 2006) which shows proposed fees for 18 674 licences to raise required annual revenue of \$5 786 905, I ask -

- (1) In regard to the answer that licensing and renewal is 71 percent of \$5.8 million, can the Minister confirm that in principle a licensing application fee should not normally exceed a fee for renewal of a licence at the end of the licence duration?
- (2) In regard to the answer that licensing and renewal is 71 percent of \$5.8 million or \$4 108 702, how can licensing and renewal administration constitute 71 percent of \$5.8 million when there is now a licence application fee of \$200, which if applied to the existing 18 674 ten year duration licences renewed at the end of 10 years would raise \$373 480 annually, which constitutes 6.45 percent of \$5 786 905 not 71 percent?
- (3) In regard to the answer that licensing and renewal is 71 percent of \$5.8 million, if the \$200 application fee doesn't full cost recover licensing application and renewal costs, why doesn't it?
- (4) In regard to answer that licensing and renewal is 71 percent of \$5.8 million, if the \$200 application fee doesn't recover licensing application and renewal costs, what rationale is the Minister applying to instead distribute the balance of the 64.55 percent licensing application and renewal costs into the annual fees of \$200, \$325, \$600, \$1200, \$1800, \$2400 and \$3000 applied each year for 10 year duration licences?
- (5) In regard to answer that checking compliance with licence conditions is 14 percent of \$5.8 million does the Minister believe it is fair businesses pay \$810 166 annually for enforcement of the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* when businesses do not have to pay fees for checking compliance with the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*, and the *Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993* applying to the same businesses?
- (6) In regard to answer that maintaining licensing database is 7 percent of \$5.8 million or \$405 083, will the Minister acknowledge that applying a fee of \$222 for a ten year duration water licence, equivalent to a drivers licence fee, will raise an amount of \$414 562 exceeding what is required to maintain a licensing database?
- (7) In regard to answer that maintaining licensing database is 7 percent of \$5.8 million, is the Minister aware that 17 of the 71 public submissions in 2006 on the draft Blueprint for Water Reform suggested a water licence fee of \$222 for a ten year duration water licence, equivalent to a drivers licence fee in cost?

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Questions Asked Today*Notice given**Tuesday, 8 May 2007*

- (8) In regard to answer that management of appeals is 4 percent of \$5.8 million or \$231 476, does the Minister believe it is fair businesses pay \$231 476 annually so the Department of Water can respond to appeals before the State Administrative Tribunal when there has been only one decision of the Tribunal during 2001 to 2007 related to the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act*?
- (9) In regard to answer that management of appeals is 4 percent of \$5.8 million; will the Minister advise if it is the Governments intention to introduce fees on businesses in relation to all statutes relevant to both the State Administrative Tribunal and businesses, to fund the cost of Government Agencies responding to appeals against their decisions?
- (10) In regard to answer that community awareness is 4 percent of \$5.8 million or \$231 476, will the Minister itemise costs for 2005-06 for the management and support of each of the ten Water Resources Advisory Committees?

4780. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources

Regarding water licence fees, I refer to the draft 'Blueprint for Water Reform' dated July 2006. Table seven on page 35 indicates that 18 674 water licences subject to the then proposed five classes of annual fees that would generate an estimated total revenue of \$5 786 905. In response to the draft Blueprint for Water Reform, the Minister for Water Resources announced on 27 February 2007 a water licence Application fee of \$200 and Annual water licence fees ranging from \$200 to \$3000 across seven classes of licences. On 18 April 2007 in a media release the Acting Director General, Department of Water said there were 13 000 existing water licensees in Western Australia and the Department of Water has repeated this in advertisements in the press. To establish which is correct I ask the following -

- (1) For the \$200 Application fee what is the estimated -
 - (a) number of new licence applications for 2006-07; and
 - (b) revenue for 2006-07?
- (2) As of April 2007, for each of the seven licence classes what is the -
 - (a) number of existing licences;
 - (b) number of existing licensees;
 - (c) volume of water licensed; and
 - (d) estimated annual revenue?
- (3) As of April 2007, for the aggregate of the seven licence classes what is the -
 - (a) total number of existing licences;
 - (b) total number of existing licensees;
 - (c) total volume of water licensed;
 - (d) estimated total revenue from annual fees; and
 - (e) estimated averaged revenue per kilolitre of licensed water?

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Questions Asked Today*Notice given**Tuesday, 8 May 2007*

4781. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

I refer to the mining activities, rehabilitation activities and residue disposal areas of Alcoa World Alumina and Worsley Alumina Pty Ltd. For each of Alcoa World Alumina and Worsley Pty Ltd -

- (1) How many hectares are currently mined for bauxite each year?
- (2) How many hectares will be mined each year when the company expands to its fully approved rate of production?
- (3) What is the total area mined to date?
- (4) How many hectares have been rehabilitated to date?
- (5) How much of the total area mined required was native forest?
- (6) How much of this area has been rehabilitated with jarrah forest species?
- (7) What is the current annual production of -
 - (a) bauxite; and
 - (b) alumina?
- (8) What will be the annual production of -
 - (a) bauxite; and
 - (b) alumina?
- (9) When the company expands to its full approved rate of production -
 - (a) how many hectares are currently used as residue disposal areas each year;
 - (b) how many hectares will be used as residue disposal areas when the company expands to its full allowable rate of production;
 - (c) what is the total area of residue disposal areas;
 - (d) how much residue is currently produced each year;
 - (e) how much residue will be produced each year when the company expands to its full approved rate of production;
 - (f) what is the total amount of residue produced to date; and
 - (g) for how much longer does its mining lease extend?

4782. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

With regard to the operations of Burrup Fertiliser and the development of multi-user infrastructure, I ask -

- (1) What funding has been received by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia from all agencies under the Minister's portfolios since the 2000-2001 financial year in respect of Burrup Fertilisers?

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- (2) What has been the total expenditure (annualised breakdown) to date of the development of the multi-user east to west service corridor on the Burrup?
- (3) Does Burrup Fertiliser financially contribute for the use of the corridor in any way?
- (4) What has been the total expenditure (annualised breakdown) to date of the sea-water/brine reticulation facilities on the Burrup?
- (5) Does Burrup Fertiliser financially contribute for the use of the sea-water/brine reticulation facilities?
- (6) What has been the total expenditure (annualised breakdown) to date of the expansion for the Dampier Port facilities?
- (7) Does Burrup Fertiliser financially contribute for the use of the Dampier Port facilities?
- (8) What financial assistance, subsidies or financial exemptions (annualised breakdown) have been provided to Burrup Fertilisers and/or its owners since consideration of the development commenced?
- (9) Why was the Burrup fertiliser anhydrous ammonia pipeline placed in the middle of the multi-user east-west service corridor?
- (10) Has the placement of the Burrup fertiliser anhydrous ammonia pipeline in the multi-user east to west service corridor constrained the further use of the corridor by other industries?

MALCOLM PEACOCK

Acting Clerk of the Legislative Council