

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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## QUESTIONS

**No. 169**

**Tuesday, 13 November 2007**

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

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## POSTPONED QUESTIONS

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**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**

4476. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Multicultural Interests and Citizenship (*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*)
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*)
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*)

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4665. Hon Ray Halligan to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation (*SO 138(d) response - May 2 2007*)

**Notice Given** *Wednesday, 19 September 2007*

5509. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training (*SO 138(d) response - October 25 2007*)

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**Notice Given** *Tuesday, 25 September 2007*

5531. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

5532. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

**Notice Given** *Wednesday, 26 September 2007*

5536. Hon Murray Criddle to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy

5541. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

**Notice Given** *Thursday, 27 September 2007*

5548. Hon Barry House to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy

**Notice Given** *Tuesday, 16 October 2007*

5549. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Corrective Services

5550. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

5551. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy

5552. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Local Government

5553. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Fisheries

5555. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

5557. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

**Notice Given** *Wednesday, 17 October 2007*

5559. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

5560. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

5561. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy

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**Postponed Questions**

- 5562. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 5563. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 5567. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health
- 5568. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health
- 5569. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health

**Notice Given**                      **Thursday, 18 October 2007**

- 5570. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Attorney General
- 5572. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
- 5573. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
- 5576. Hon Barbara Scott to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 5577. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 5578. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Attorney General
- 5579. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 5580. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Consumer Protection
- 5581. Hon Norman Moore to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

**Notice Given**                      **Tuesday, 23 October 2007**

- 5582. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Women's Interests
- 5583. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister for Racing and Gaming
- 5584. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister for Racing and Gaming
- 5585. Hon Ray Halligan to the Minister for Racing and Gaming
- 5586. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

**Notice Given**                      **Wednesday, 24 October 2007**

- 5587. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 5588. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Attorney General
- 5589. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Attorney General

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5590. Hon Brian Ellis to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

***Notice Given***                      ***Thursday, 25 October 2007***

5591. Hon Norman Moore to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

5592. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Forestry

5593. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Women's Interests

5594. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

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5595. Hon Norman Moore to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Resources

I refer the Minister to the summary of the Strategic Review of Banded Iron Formation Ranges of the Midwest and Goldfields, released on 24 October, and ask -

- (1) Will the Minister indicate the total area size covered by the review?
- (2) How much of that area would be made inaccessible for mining under the Government's intentions as outlined under points one to seven on pages eight and nine and points one to three under Key Principles, also on page nine?
- (3) Does the Government have any estimates of the amount of iron ore deposits and any other mineral deposits that would be locked away under the Strategic Framework?

5596. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health

Further to the answer to questions asked in 2006, regarding the Government's negotiations to re-lease Galliers Private Hospital, -

- (1) Has a decision been made to re-lease Galliers Private Hospital and Medical Centre to a private operator?
- (2) If no to (1), is the matter still under consideration by the Department of Health?
- (3) If yes to (2), how much longer will the Government take to make a decision about re-leasing Galliers Hospital to a private operator?

5597. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Attorney General

In 2000 the Liberal Government introduced the first Family Violence Court in Western Australia. Seven years later the Labor Government finally got around to opening two additional Family Violence Courts, one in Fremantle and the other in Rockingham, with additional Family Violence Courts scheduled to open in Midland, Armadale and Perth in the next year, -

- (1) How many hearings have been held thus far at the Fremantle Family Violence Court, which was scheduled for hearings to commence on 29 August 2007?
- (2) How many hearings have been held thus far at the Rockingham Family Violence Court?
- (3) Are the Family Violence Courts in Fremantle and Rockingham fully staffed, including experienced police prosecutors, to run at 100 percent capacity?
- (4) If no to (3), what does the Attorney General intend to do about the shortage?

5598. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health

- (1) How many children are waiting for appointments to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services?

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- (2) What is the average length of waiting time for children in, -
- (a) North Metropolitan;
  - (b) South metropolitan; and
  - (c) Regional Mental Health Services?

5599. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Resources

Referring to recent mineral (iron-ore) exploration on E59/1175 on the Banded Iron Ridge adjacent to the John Forrest Lookout on the Karara Conservation Station, I ask -

- (1) What environmental conditions have been placed on this exploration program?
- (2) Did this approval permit the clearing of drilling access lines the width of three long-wheel base four wheel-drives?
- (3) Were any cleared drill lines and drill holes approved by Department of Industry and Resources (DOIR)?
- (4) Did this approval permit the construction of these drill lines directly down-slope, making future gully erosion control impossible?
- (5) Did this approval permit the PVC collars to remain above ground (that is not appropriately capped)?
- (6) Was a Declared Rare Flora (DRF) survey of the drilling grid conducted prior to the earth moving?
- (7) Was DRF mapped on the site?
- (8) Was the DRF preserved during the drilling program?
- (9) Will the Minister table the DOIR approval to use earth-moving machinery at this location and a copy of the botanists DRF report?

5600. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Public Sector Management

In relation to staff resigning from the State's Public Service, -

- (1) How many State Public Servants employed at the following levels in the area of environmental assessment have resigned in the past five years -
  - (a) levels eight and nine ;
  - (b) classes one to four ; and
  - (c) CEOs' and other staff employed on individual contracts?
- (2) Of those who have since had professional dealings with State Government Departments responsible for environmental assessments and planning development issues, -
  - (a) what have these issues been;

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- (b) what Government Departments have been involved in these dealings;
- (c) what companies have been involved in these dealings; and
- (d) which ex State Public Servants have been involved in these dealings?

5601. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Regarding rail lines in the South West and Great Southern region of the State, and I ask -

- (1) Is it correct that Westnet Rail has indicated it will have to close marginal rail lines unless it receives government subsidies?
- (2) If yes to (1), -
  - (a) what lines have been identified as financially marginal;
  - (b) which financially marginal lines is the Government considering closing;
  - (c) which financially marginal lines is the Government considering subsidising; and
  - (d) what is the likely value of these subsidies?
- (3) Has the Government done the following, -
  - (a) undertaken a study on the economics of maintaining marginal rail lines in these regions; and
  - (b) undertaken a comprehensive investigation of freight tasks in these regions to establish opportunities to put road freight onto rail?
- (4) If yes to either (4a) or (4b), please provide the reports?
- (5) If no to either (4a) or (4b), why not?

5602. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

Regarding area A and B surrounding Alcoa's refinery at Wagerup, I ask -

- (1) How many properties within the 'A' area surrounding Alcoa's Wagerup refinery remain unsold to Alcoa?
- (2) Of the properties in (1), how many have been valued under Alcoa's Area A purchase scheme?
- (3) Of the properties in (2), -
  - (a) what was the total value of the properties valued; and
  - (b) how many valuations were disputed by the owners?
- (4) What is the total value of disputed valuations in (3)(b)?
- (5) How many properties within the 'B' area surrounding Alcoa's Wagerup refinery remain unsold to Alcoa?

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- (6) Of the properties in (5) how many have been valued under Alcoa's Area B purchase scheme?
- (7) Of the properties in (6), -
  - (a) what was the total value of the properties valued; and
  - (b) how many valuations were disputed by the owners?
- (8) What is the total value of disputed valuations in (7)(b)?

5603. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Forestry

With reference to the terms 'forest residue' and 'forest waste', I ask -

- (1) What is the Forest Products Commission's (FPC) definition of the terms -
  - (a) forest residue; and
  - (b) forest waste?
- (2) Has the FPC called for tenders for the purchase -
  - (a) forest residue; and
  - (b) forest waste?
- (3) If no to (2), does the FPC plan to do so?
- (4) If yes to (2) or (3), what -
  - (a) species do the tenders cover;
  - (b) what amounts of each species are involved; and
  - (c) what is the proposed likely end use of each species?

5604. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Resources

With regards to the mining company Bauxite Resources Limited, I ask -

- (1) Has Bauxite Resources Limited lodged any applications for explorations licenses or permits in the Darling Ranges?
- (2) If yes to (1), -
  - (a) what is the total area in hectares for the applications;
  - (b) what is the total area in hectares of private land;
  - (c) what is the total area in hectares of public land;
  - (d) what is the total area in hectares of cleared land;
  - (e) what is the total area in hectares of uncleared land;
  - (f) when where the applications lodged; and
  - (g) at what stage are the applications?



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- (3) Of the public land in (2c) how much is
  - (a) vacant Crown Land;
  - (b) State Forest; and
  - (c) Conservation Estate including National Parks, Conservation Parks, Nature Reserves or any other type of reserve?
- (4) If yes to (1), have any licenses or permits for exploration in the Darling Ranges been issued to Bauxite Resources Limited?
- (5) If yes to (3), -
  - (a) what is the total area in hectares of the licenses or permits
  - (b) what is the total area in hectares of private land
  - (c) what is the total area in hectares of public land
  - (d) what is the total area in hectares of cleared land
  - (e) what is the total area in hectares of uncleared land; and
  - (f) what is the lifespan of the permits?
- (6) Of the public land in (5)(c), how much is, -
  - (a) vacant Crown Land;
  - (b) State Forest; and
  - (c) Conservation Estate including National Parks, Conservation Parks, Nature Reserves or any other type of reserve?

5605. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

Regarding the clearing of native vegetation, I ask -

- (1) Is the Minister aware that between 28 August 2006 and 11 June 2007 the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) granted 59 native vegetation purpose clearing permits to Shires allowing them to undertake road maintenance, widening and related road work activities, and that these permits covered an area totalling over 1195 hectares of which over 525 hectares are located within the Southwest Australia Biodiversity Hotspot as defined by Conservation International?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that DEC assesses clearing proposals against ten clearing principles laid out in its Clearing Permit Decision Reports, and that in respect of all the Shires located in the Southwest Australia Biodiversity Hotspot, the permitted clearing was noted at being at variance with at least one and up to nine of these principles?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?
- (5) If yes to (3), can the Minister please provide the following information -

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- (a) how many permit applications that contained variances to the principles were approved;
  - (b) how many permit applications that contained variances to the principles were refused; and
  - (c) how many permit applications were subject to appeals by members of the public or organisations that represent them?
- (6) Of those permits in (5)(a), how many variances were contained in each?
- (7) Of those permits in (5)(c), -
- (a) how many were upheld by the Minister or his predecessors; and
  - (b) against which Shire or Shires were the appeals upheld?
- (8) Of the permits referred to in (5)(c), how many had the area of clearing reduced as a consequence of an appeal?
- (9) Of the permits referred to in (1) how many contain conditions that require permit holders to provide the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of DEC with a proposal for the re-vegetation and management of land to offset the loss of significant remnant native vegetation?
- (10) Of the permits referred to in (9), -
- (a) how many total hectares are scheduled for re-vegetation under the offset conditions;
  - (b) how many permits have had these re-vegetations offset conditions fully met and have been inspected and approved by the DEC; and
  - (c) how many permits have not yet met their re-vegetation offset conditions and when are these conditions expected to be met?
- (11) Can the Minister explain why the clearing offset conditions referred to in (9), are not subject to public scrutiny and appeal?
- (12) The Auditor General's recent report on the Management of Native Vegetation Clearing states that the DEC has not been ensuring compliance re native vegetation clearing is being met. What steps has the DEC taken to ensure future compliance?
- (13) What is the DEC doing to ensure complaints about illegal clearing are promptly investigated?
- (14) The Auditor General's report also noted that the DEC was failing to investigate clearing that required a permit being undertaken illegally without one, as for example in the case of the Shire of Toodyay. What steps have been taken by the DEC to rectify this situation?
- (15) Since the publication of the Auditor General's report, has the DEC initiated any prosecutions for illegal clearing?
- (16) If no to (15), why not?
- (17) If yes to (15), -
- (a) who are these prosecutions against; and
  - (b) for what are they being prosecuted?

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5606. Hon Anthony Fels to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health

- (1) What percentage of registered nurses and enrolled nurses, resigned from their positions for each of the following months -
- (a) July 2006;
  - (b) August 2006;
  - (c) September 2006;
  - (d) October 2006;
  - (e) November 2006;
  - (f) December 2006;
  - (g) January 2007;
  - (h) February 2007;
  - (i) March 2007;
  - (j) April 2007;
  - (k) May 2007; and
  - (l) June 2007?

For each of the following hospitals, -

- (i) Sir Charles Gardiner;
- (ii) Royal Perth Hospital;
- (iii) Fremantle;
- (iv) Rockingham-Kwinana;
- (v) Swan District;
- (vi) Armadale-Kelmscott;
- (vii) Joondalup Health Campus; and
- (viii) Kalgoorlie Hospital?

5607. Hon Anthony Fels to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health

- (1) How many registered nurses and enrolled nurses, resigned from their positions for each of the following months -
- (a) July 2006;
  - (b) August 2006;
  - (c) September 2006;
  - (d) October 2006;

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- (e) November 2006;
- (f) December 2006;
- (g) January 2007;
- (h) February 2007;
- (i) March 2007;
- (j) April 2007;
- (k) May 2007; and
- (l) June 2007?

For each of the following hospitals, -

- (i) Sir Charles Gardiner;
- (ii) Royal Perth Hospital;
- (iii) Fremantle;
- (iv) Rockingham-Kwinana;
- (v) Swan District;
- (vi) Armadale-Kelmscott;
- (vii) Joondalup Health Campus; and
- (viii) Kalgoorlie Hospital?

5608. Hon Anthony Fels to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health

- (1) How registered nurses and enrolled nurses, took leave without pay from their positions for each of the following months -
  - (a) July 2006;
  - (b) August 2006;
  - (c) September 2006;
  - (d) October 2006;
  - (e) November 2006;
  - (f) December 2006;
  - (g) January 2007;
  - (h) February 2007;
  - (i) March 2007;
  - (j) April 2007;
  - (k) May 2007; and

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(1)      June 2007?

For each of the following hospitals, -

- (i)      Sir Charles Gardiner;
- (ii)     Royal Perth Hospital;
- (iii)    Fremantle;
- (iv)     Rockingham-Kwinana;
- (v)      Swan District;
- (vi)     Armadale-Kelmscott;
- (vii)    Joondalup Health Campus; and
- (viii)   Kalgoorlie Hospital?

(2)      If possible, please detail the length of time taken, -

- (a)      total;
- (b)      one day;
- (c)      one week or more;
- (d)      one month or more;
- (e)      six months or more; and
- (f)      one year or more?

**MALCOLM PEACOCK**  
Clerk of the Legislative Council