

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
QUESTIONS
No. 214
Wednesday, 9 September 2020

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

QUESTIONS AWAITING ANSWERS

Notice Given *Thursday, 25 June 2020*

3015. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
3016. Hon Colin Holt to the Minister for Regional Development

Notice Given *Tuesday, 11 August 2020*

3018. Hon Colin Holt to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
3019. Hon Colin Holt to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
3020. Hon Colin Holt to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
3021. Hon Colin Holt to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
3022. Hon Colin Holt to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
3023. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
3024. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing
3025. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
3026. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
3027. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health
3028. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
3029. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3030. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3031. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
3032. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Education and Training

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- 3033. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Industrial Relations
- 3034. Hon Rick Mazza to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
- 3035. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
- 3036. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
- 3037. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
- 3038. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
- 3039. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
- 3040. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development
- 3041. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 3042. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 3043. Hon Robin Chapple to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
- 3044. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
- 3045. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing
- 3046. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3047. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
- 3048. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 3049. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
- 3050. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 3051. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 3052. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 3053. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 3054. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 3055. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 3056. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 3057. Hon Jacqui Boydell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing
- 3058. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence
- 3059. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection

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- 3060. Hon Michael Mischin to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 3061. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment
- 3062. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment
- 3063. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Forestry
- 3064. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 3065. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 3066. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 3067. Hon Colin Holt to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
- 3068. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
- 3069. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
- 3070. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
- 3071. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services
- 3072. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 3073. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 3074. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Lands
- 3075. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning
- 3076. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning

Notice Given ***Wednesday, 12 August 2020***

- 3077. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Agriculture and Food
- 3078. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services
- 3079. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal-State Relations
- 3080. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade
- 3081. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Mental Health
- 3082. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3083. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment; Disability Services; Electoral Affairs
- 3084. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police; Road Safety
- 3085. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Ports; Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade
- 3086. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services

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Questions Awaiting Answers

3087. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts
3088. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
3089. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Commerce
3090. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering; Sport and Recreation
3091. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Treasurer; Minister for Finance; Aboriginal Affairs; Lands
3092. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Tourism; Racing and Gaming; Small Business; Defence Issues; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
3093. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Industrial Relations
3094. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Energy
3095. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport; Planning
3096. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing; Fisheries; Veterans Issues; Asian Engagement
3097. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services
3098. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water; Forestry; Innovation and ICT; Science; Youth

Notice Given **Thursday, 13 August 2020**

3099. Hon Diane Evers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
3100. Hon Colin Holt to the Minister for Regional Development
3101. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
3102. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal-State Relations
3103. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade
3104. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Mental Health
3105. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Education and Training
3106. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment; Disability Services; Electoral Affairs
3107. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police; Road Safety
3108. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Ports; Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade
3109. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services

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Questions Awaiting Answers

- 3110. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts
- 3111. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
- 3112. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Commerce
- 3113. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering; Sport and Recreation
- 3114. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Treasurer; Minister for Finance; Aboriginal Affairs; Lands
- 3115. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Tourism; Racing and Gaming; Small Business; Defence Issues; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
- 3116. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Industrial Relations
- 3117. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Energy
- 3118. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport; Planning
- 3119. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing; Fisheries; Veterans Issues; Asian Engagement
- 3120. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services
- 3121. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water; Forestry; Innovation and ICT; Science; Youth
- 3122. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Ports

Notice Given ***Tuesday, 18 August 2020***

- 3123. Hon Jacqui Boydell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
- 3124. Hon Jacqui Boydell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing
- 3125. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
- 3126. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Ports
- 3127. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Ports
- 3128. Hon Jacqui Boydell to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence
- 3129. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
- 3130. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
- 3131. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 3132. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services
- 3133. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health

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3134. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
 3135. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
 3136. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
 3137. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
 3138. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training
 3139. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
 3140. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection;
 Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services

Notice Given *Wednesday, 19 August 2020*

3141. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
 3142. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing

Notice Given *Thursday, 20 August 2020*

3143. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
 3144. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
 3145. Hon Colin Holt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation

Notice Given *Tuesday, 8 September 2020*

3146. Hon Jacqui Boydell to the Minister for Environment
 3147. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
 3148. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
 3149. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
 3150. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
 3151. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
 3152. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training
 3153. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training
 3154. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training
 3155. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Education and Training
 3156. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing
 3157. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
 3158. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
 3159. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
 3160. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
 3161. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing
 3162. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services
 3163. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection

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3164. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Industrial Relations

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QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

*Notice Given**Wednesday, 9 September 2020***3166. Hon Jacqui Boydell to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health:**

I refer to the *Mental Health Plan 2015-25*, and I ask, of the 22 percent, or \$147 million, increase in spending in the mental health sector referred to, please outline how the extra money has been spent breaking down by region, capital works projects, staffing level increases and/or operational budget increases?

3167. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water:

I refer to water levels in Lake Argyle, and I ask:

- (a) what level is the water in Lake Argyle currently at;
- (b) what is the long term average level of Lake Argyle at this time of year;
- (c) what percentage of the long term average water level is Lake Argyle currently at;
- (d) when was the last time Lake Argyle was this low at this time of year;
- (e) why is Lake Argyle at this low level;
- (f) what is the minimum operating level at Lake Argyle;
- (g) what is the current allocation limit from Lake Argyle for the Ord irrigation area;
- (h) what percentage of reliability is the current allocation limit at;
- (i) how much water has been used in total from Lake Argyle for irrigation for each of the past five years;
- (j) as a result of low water levels, are restrictions currently in place for any current water users drawing from Lake Argyle:
 - (i) if yes to (j), for which users and what are the restrictions; and
 - (ii) if no to (j), why not;
- (k) are further or future restrictions planned for any current water users drawing from Lake Argyle:
 - (i) if yes to (k), for which users and what are the planned restrictions; and
 - (ii) if no to (k), why not;
- (l) based on Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and Bureau of Metereology (BoM) climate change, evaporation and rainfall modelling for the East Kimberley Region, does the Minister expect Lake Argyle water level scenario to worsen, stay the same or improve in coming years:
 - (i) if the Minister expects the water level to stay the same or improve, what scientific basis does the Minister base their conclusion;
- (m) based on current water levels and future expected climate, evaporation and rainfall outcomes as modelled and reported by CSIRO and BoM for the East Kimberley Region is there sufficient water to maintain existing irrigated agricultural water usage levels;

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- (n) based on current water levels and future expected climate, evaporation and rainfall outcomes as modeled and reported by CSIRO and BoM for the East Kimberley Region, is there sufficient water to expand the agricultural area under irrigation from Lake Argyle:
 - (i) if yes to (n), by what area and volume and water; and
- (o) if the Ord irrigation area has reached or exceeded its likely long term water availability from Lake Argyle, will the Minister be advising existing and potential future investors:
 - (i) if no to (o), why not?

3168. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to the Auditor General's follow-up report entitled *Managing the Impact of Plant and Animal Pests: Follow-Up*, of 31 August 2020, which covered the adequacy of the response to their report of 2013, and I ask, given that the report says that the Government's plan for the collaborative management of pests has not been fully implemented, and only "13 of its 38 actions have been completed", please list the 25 actions that have not been completed and for each action outline why it has not been completed and when it is expected to be completed?

3169. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment:

- (1) When was the *Perth Air Quality Management Plan (2000)* last updated:
 - (a) please table a copy of the updated plan?
- (2) Is the *National Environment Protection (Air Toxic) Measure* being used to continuously monitor air toxins in Western Australia?
- (3) If yes to (2), where can this data be found?
- (4) Has the ambient air quality *National Environment Protection (Air Toxic) Measure* been implemented across the whole State, or just in the metropolitan area?
- (5) I note that the Caversham Air Quality Index data during May and June this year showed as distinctly unhealthy and unacceptably high, does the Minister have any insight to what this could be attributed to?
- (6) Is the McGowan Government considering installing further air quality monitoring stations?
- (7) If yes to (6), where?

3170. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment:

- (1) I refer to the response provided to question without notice 798, and I ask:
 - (a) when will the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) investigation into whether there are any breaches of environmental legislation as a result of the fire be complete; and
 - (b) given Cleanaway's South Guildford facility handled hazardous waste including batteries and hydrocarbon waste, why is DWER, in conjunction with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, only now creating a fire pollution and prevention strategy to reduce the risk of fires at material recycling facilities?
- (2) I refer to the Cleanaway Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at South Guildford, and I ask:
 - (a) for any licensing breaches that have occurred on the site since operations began, will the Minister please provide details including when the breach occurred, the nature of the breach and what was done to rectify the issue;

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- (b) will the Minister please provide details, including when the fire occurred and the nature of the cause of the fire, for any fires that have occurred on the site since operations began;
 - (c) why did DWER classify a fire at a facility licenced to stockpile a million tonnes of flammable plastic waste as low risk and minor in consequence:
 - (i) why was this classification not adjusted when Cleanaway's license was amended to receive hazardous waste, including hydrocarbon waste and batteries; and
 - (d) given the facility has not been required to undertake any Environmental Impact Assessment prior to operation and licencing and that the former Western Australian Parliamentary Waste Control Fire Inquiry (*Bellevue Hazardous Waste Fire Inquiry*) recommended a range of regulatory recommendations to ensure safer and better operations at large-scale waste facilities handling hazardous wastes such waste oil and plastics, why did DWER not require a full fire impact risk and hazard assessment prior to issuing a licence?
- (3) I refer to the waste water that entered the Swan River as a result of fire fighting efforts during the November 2019 fire at Cleanaway's South Guildford facility, and I ask:
- (a) will the Minister please confirm the estimated amount of runoff that may have entered the swan estuary during these efforts:
 - (i) can the Minister please account for the discrepancies between DWER and Cleanaway reports; and
 - (b) does the Minister echo community sentiment for the facility to be relocated to a safer location with a more adequate buffer zone, away from the Swan River and homes?
- 3171. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Emergency Services:**
- (1) I refer to the response provided to question without notice 798, and I ask:
- (a) when will the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) investigation into whether there are any breaches of environmental legislation as a result of the fire be complete; and
 - (b) given Cleanaway's South Guildford facility handled hazardous waste including batteries and hydrocarbon waste, why is DWER, in conjunction with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, only now creating a fire pollution and prevention strategy to reduce the risk of fires at material recycling facilities?
- (2) I refer to the Cleanaway Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at South Guildford, and I ask:
- (a) for any licensing breaches that have occurred on the site since operations began, will the Minister please provide details including when the breach occurred, the nature of the breach and what was done to rectify the issue;
 - (b) will the Minister please provide details, including when the fire occurred and the nature of the cause of the fire, for any fires that have occurred on the site since operations began;
 - (c) why did DWER classify a fire at a facility licenced to stockpile a million tonnes of flammable plastic waste as low risk and minor in consequence:

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- (i) why was this classification not adjusted when Cleanaway's license was amended to receive hazardous waste, including hydrocarbon waste and batteries; and
 - (d) given the facility has not been required to undertake any Environmental Impact Assessment prior to operation and licencing and that the former Western Australian Parliamentary Waste Control Fire Inquiry (*Bellevue Hazardous Waste Fire Inquiry*) recommended a range of regulatory recommendations to ensure safer and better operations at large-scale waste facilities handling hazardous wastes such waste oil and plastics, why did DWER not require a full fire impact risk and hazard assessment prior to issuing a licence?
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 - (i) can the Minister please account for the discrepancies between DWER and Cleanaway reports; and
 - (b) does the Minister echo community sentiment for the facility to be relocated to a safer location with a more adequate buffer zone, away from the Swan River and homes;

NIGEL PRATT

Clerk of the Legislative Council