

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
QUESTIONS
No. 219
Tuesday, 22 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 ***Tuesday, 11 August 2020***

3036. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water (*SO108(2) response due 15 October 2020*)
3037. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water (*SO108(2) response due 15 October 2020*)
3038. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water (*SO108(2) response due 15 October 2020*)
3039. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water (*SO108(2) response due 15 October 2020*)
3047. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water (*SO108(2) response due 15 October 2020*)
3063. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Forestry (*SO108(2) response due 15 October 2020*)

Notice Given ***Thursday, 13 August 2020***

3101. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport

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
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
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

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Questions Awaiting Answers

3134. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police

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

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

Notice Given *Wednesday, 9 September 2020*

3166. Hon Jacqui Boydell to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Questions Awaiting Answers

- 3167. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water
- 3168. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Agriculture and Food
- 3169. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment
- 3170. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment
- 3171. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Emergency Services

Notice Given **Thursday, 10 September 2020**

- 3172. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development
- 3173. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Ports
- 3174. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming
- 3175. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 3176. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Small Business
- 3177. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
- 3178. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Energy
- 3179. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3180. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development
- 3181. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development
- 3182. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Housing; Fisheries; Veterans Issues; Asian Engagement
- 3183. Hon Tim Clifford to the Minister for Environment
- 3184. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 3185. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
- 3186. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 3187. Hon Colin Holt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health

Notice Given **Tuesday, 15 September 2020**

- 3188. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
- 3189. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Energy
- 3190. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
- 3191. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport
- 3192. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Treasurer
- 3193. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3194. Hon Diane Evers to the Minister for Environment
- 3195. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General
- 3196. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Questions Awaiting Answers

3197. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
3198. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police
3199. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Mental Health
3200. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Education and Training
3201. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
3202. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Energy
3203. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police

Notice Given Wednesday, 16 September 2020

3204. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
3205. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3206. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3207. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3208. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3209. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3210. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3211. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3212. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3213. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3214. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3215. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3216. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3217. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3218. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3219. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3220. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3221. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3222. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
3223. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training

Notice Given Thursday, 17 September 2020

3224. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Corrective Services
3225. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

 QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

*Notice Given**Tuesday, 22 September 2020***3226. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:**

I refer to New Standard Energy (NSE) and their failure to rehabilitate six petroleum wells (four drilled; two not drilled) in the Canning Basin, despite formal directions from the Department of Mining, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS), leaving considerable liability to the Western Australian taxpayers, and I ask:

- (a) in light of the failure of DMIRS to ensure NSE was financially able and legally obliged to properly close and rehabilitate four petroleum wells drilled in the Canning Basin, south east of Broome: Gibb-Maitland-1, Nicolay-1, Lanagan-1, Lawford-1, and Lawford 1 Deepening, will the Minister guarantee that other would-be Canning Basin explorers, such as Black Mountain, Bennett Resources Pty Ltd and Theia Pty Ltd, will be required to place a security bond in cash with DMIRS that is sufficient enough to cover the full costs of closure and rehabilitation for each proposed well, prior to any drilling commencing:
 - (i) if no to (a), why not;
- (b) given that NSE has changed its company name several times, what was the company name at the time of drilling and completing each of the wells: Gibb-Maitland-1, Nicolay-1, Lanagan-1, Lawford-1, and Lawford 1 Deepening;
- (c) is the Minister aware that NSE was in a joint venture partnership with ConocoPhillips from September 2011 and at the time of drilling two of its Canning Basin wells;
- (d) is the Minister aware that NSE was in a financial arrangement with PetroChina from July 2013, valued at tens of millions of dollars;
- (e) has the Minister or DMIRS pursued either ConocoPhillips or PetroChina, each with billions of dollars in annual income, and requested their help cover NSE's liabilities in relation to the four unrehabilitated wells in the Canning Basin:
 - (i) if yes to (e), what was the result of the request; and
 - (ii) if no to (e), why not;
- (f) has DMIRS provided the Minister with a comprehensive risk and financial liability analysis for all the onshore petroleum wells currently located in the Kimberley and Canning Basin regions, including the 27 wells that are currently listed by the Department as being the legal responsibility of Buru Pty Ltd:
 - (i) if yes to (f), will the Minister provide a copy of the analysis; and
 - (ii) if no to (f), why not;
- (g) if such an analysis, referred to in (f), does not exist, why not, given DMIRS's disastrous experience with NSE;
- (h) will the Minister refuse to provide any future exploration or production licenses to any oil or gas company that has previously failed to cover the full costs of rehabilitation of wells for which they are wholly or partially responsible:
 - (i) if no to (h), why not; and

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Questions Asked Today

Notice Given *Tuesday, 22 September 2020*

- (i) for the purposes of the regulatory role of DMIRS, what legal involvement and responsibilities does Buru Energy have in relation to NSE?

3227. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Commerce:

I refer to the Minister's response to question without notice 735, on 11 August 2020, and I ask:

- (a) how many applications have been made to the residential tenancies mandatory conciliation service since 11 August 2020;
- (b) of the accepted applications, how many have resulted in:
- (i) agreement between the parties; and
- (ii) no agreement between the parties; and
- (c) where agreement has been reached between the parties, how many agreements resulted in:
- (i) rent being reduced; and
- (ii) rent being deferred?

3228. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to children who were not in care, but had been hospitalised or had died after the Department had received a child protection notification about them in the previous 12 months, and I ask:

- (a) since 2019, on how many occasions did this occur where the Department had not yet completed an investigation; and
- (b) since 2019, on how many occasions did this occur where the investigation had been completed but a decision had been made to not bring the child into care?

3229. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to the answer given to question on notice 504 on 20 March 2018, the answer given to question on notice 2583 on 19 November 2019, and the answer given to question on notice 2806 on 19 March 2020, and I ask:

- (a) will the Premier take action to ensure a complete, consolidated, current form of all State agreements is published:
- (i) on the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation website; and
- (ii) the Western Australian Legislation website (to which the Department's website page that lists all State agreements provides a link); and
- (b) if no to (a)(i) and (a)(ii), why not?

3230. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the activities of the petroleum exploration company known as New Standard Energy (NSE) Pty Ltd, also known as New Standard Onshore (NSO) Pty Ltd, and ask:

- (a) which company, or companies, currently legally hold Exploration Permits (EPs) 417, 443, 450, 451, 456 and 481 in the Canning Basin;
- (b) which company, or companies, legally held those same EPs in:

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Questions Asked Today

Notice Given *Tuesday, 22 September 2020*

- (i) 2008;
- (ii) 2011;
- (iii) 2014; and
- (iv) 2017;
- (c) which company is currently legally responsible for each of the four petroleum exploration wells known as Lawford-1, Lanagan-1, Gibb-Maitland-1 and Nicolay-1;
- (d) what is the Minister's understanding of the relationship between New Standard Energy Pty Ltd and New Standard Onshore Pty Ltd;
- (e) are those companies still legally registered and operating in Western Australia;
- (f) what is the street address for each company named in (a) and (d);
- (g) on what dates in 2018 did the Department of Mining, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) issue NSE or NSO with Directions Notices in relation to its Woodward-1, Blatchford-1, Condon-1, Nicolay-1 and Gibb-Maitland-1 wells and sites:
 - (i) will the Minister table each of the Directions Notices referred to in (g); and
 - (ii) if no to (g)(i), why not;
- (h) what was the deadline for compliance action given for each of the Directions Notices referred to in (d);
- (i) since the Directions Notices, referred to in (d), were issued, has the company taken any on-ground action to comply with them:
 - (i) if yes to (i), what actions, against whom and when; and
 - (ii) if no to (i), why not;
- (j) since the deadline passed, has any further compliance enforcement action been undertaken in relation to those wells and sites referred to in (c) and (g):
 - (i) if yes to (j), what action, against whom and when; and
 - (ii) if no to (j), why not;
- (k) has the Department commenced prosecution under the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967*, in relation to failure to comply with any of the Directions Notices issued to NSE or NSO:
 - (i) if yes to (k), what is the current status of the prosecution; and
 - (ii) if no to (k), why not;
- (l) given that the Department estimated in February 2019 that the cost of properly closing and rehabilitating the Nicolay-1 well and site was \$1.5 million, what is the current cost estimate for the rehabilitation of that well and site;
- (m) what is the Department's cost estimate for the closure and rehabilitation of the Lanagan-1, Lawford-1, Gibb-Maitland-1 wells and sites;
- (n) what is the Department's cost estimate for the rehabilitation of the Woodward-1, Blatchford-1 and Condon-1 sites;
- (o) what is the total cost estimate for closure and rehabilitation of all 4 wells and 7 sites referred to in (c) and (g); and

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Questions Asked Today

Notice Given *Tuesday, 22 September 2020*

- (p) will the public end up bearing the cost of closing and rehabilitating all of these wells and sites:
- (i) if no to (p), who will bear the cost of closing and rehabilitating all of these wells and sites?

3231. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) In total, how much funding did the Western Australian Government give to the Lions Eye Institute in:
- (a) 2015-16;
- (b) 2016-17;
- (c) 2017-18;
- (d) 2018-19; and
- (e) 2019-20?
- (2) For each of the amounts in (1)(a) to (1)(e), will the Minister please provide a breakdown of what the funding was provided for?

3232. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Disability Services:

- (1) In total, how much funding did the Western Australian Government give to VisAbility in:
- (a) 2015-16;
- (b) 2016-17;
- (c) 2017-18;
- (d) 2018-19; and
- (e) 2019-20?
- (2) For each of the amounts in (1)(a) to (1)(e), will the Minister please provide a breakdown of what the funding was provided for?

NIGEL PRATT

Clerk of the Legislative Council