

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

QUESTIONS

No. 143

Tuesday, 19 June 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**

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 ***Tuesday, 1 May 2007***

4756. Hon Norman Moore to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - June 6 2007*)

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

4764. Hon Ken Baston to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure (*SO 138(d) response - June 7 2007*)

Notice Given ***Wednesday, 9 May 2007***

4784. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

4789. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

4790. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Forestry

4791. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for the Mid West and Wheatbelt

4792. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Great Southern

4793. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Local Government

4794. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Racing and Gaming

4795. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Multicultural Interests and Citizenship

4796. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Government Enterprises

4797. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

4798. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Goldfields-Esperance

4799. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Youth

4800. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Regional Development

4801. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Fisheries

4802. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne

4803. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection

4804. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Communities

4805. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Women's Interests

4806. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering

4813. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Deputy Premier

4814. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Treasurer

4815. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

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4819. Hon Helen Morton to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation
4823. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Employment Protection
4824. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Housing and Works
4825. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
4826. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Heritage
4827. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Land Information
4828. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
4830. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Tourism
4831. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Culture and the Arts
4832. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Consumer Protection
4833. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
4835. Hon Helen Morton to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
4838. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Corrective Services
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4840. Hon Helen Morton to the Leader of the House representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations
4841. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
4842. Hon Helen Morton to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Climate Change

Notice Given **Thursday, 10 May 2007**

4845. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Forestry
4846. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

Notice Given **Tuesday, 29 May 2007**

4847. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Disability Services

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- 4848. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
- 4849. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4850. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 4851. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
- 4852. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
- 4853. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4854. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Culture and the Arts
- 4858. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4860. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Minister for Child Protection
- 4861. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Minister for Child Protection
- 4862. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Minister for Child Protection
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- 4864. Hon Robyn McSweeney to the Minister for Child Protection
- 4865. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food
- 4866. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Forestry
- 4867. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for the Mid West and Wheatbelt
- 4868. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Great Southern
- 4869. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government
- 4870. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Racing and Gaming
- 4871. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Multicultural Interests and Citizenship
- 4872. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Government Enterprises
- 4873. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 4874. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Goldfields-Esperance
- 4875. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Youth
- 4876. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Regional Development
- 4877. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Fisheries
- 4878. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne
- 4892. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

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- 4893. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Community Safety
- 4894. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources
- 4895. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation
- 4896. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Attorney General
- 4897. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health
- 4898. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Electoral Affairs
- 4899. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Employment Protection
- 4900. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Housing and Works
- 4901. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
- 4902. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Heritage
- 4903. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Land Information
- 4904. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 4905. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Disability Services
- 4906. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Tourism
- 4907. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Culture and the Arts
- 4908. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Consumer Protection
- 4909. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training
- 4911. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
- 4914. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 4915. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Small Business
- 4916. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations
- 4917. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment

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- 4918. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Climate Change
- 4920. Hon Anthony Fels to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4921. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4922. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Employment Protection
- 4923. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4924. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Employment Protection
- 4925. Hon Anthony Fels to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health

Notice Given *Wednesday, 30 May 2007*

- 4926. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4927. Hon Norman Moore to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
- 4929. Hon Barbara Scott to the Minister for Child Protection
- 4932. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Minister for Regional Development

Notice Given *Thursday, 31 May 2007*

- 4933. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Notice Given *Tuesday, 5 June 2007*

- 4934. Hon Barry House to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 4935. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
- 4936. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Notice Given *Wednesday, 6 June 2007*

- 4938. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Climate Change
- 4939. Hon Anthony Fels to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 4941. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development
- 4942. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 4943. Hon Norman Moore to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Attorney General

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Notice Given *Thursday, 7 June 2007*

- 4944. Hon Helen Morton to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Health
- 4945. Hon Barry House to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 4946. Hon Barry House to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Innovation
- 4947. Hon Barry House to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Science
- 4949. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
- 4950. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for the Environment
- 4951. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Government Enterprises

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4952. Hon Norman Moore to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Resources

Further to the answer given to question without notice No. 290 provided on Wednesday 6 June 2007, will the Minister provide the following details of the auger and drilling programmes referred in the answer -

- (a) the date of each drilling programme; and
- (b) the location of each drilling programme, in relation to the so-called sacred site delineated at Noonkanbah by Peter Bindon?

4953. Hon Simon O'Brien to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

I refer to my question to the Minister for Water Resources, asked in the Legislative Council on Thursday 31 May 2007, concerning costs for modification of water supply, drainage and sewerage infrastructure made necessary by the construction of the new Metrorail/Southern Suburbs Railway Project, and ask -

- (1) What were/are the necessary modifications?
- (2) What was the cost of these modifications -
 - (a) in total; and
 - (b) if the works were broken down into individual packages or programs, those individual amounts?
- (3) To whom will the cost of these modifications be paid and when?

4954. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

I refer the Minister to the new courses for year 11 and 12, and ask -

- (1) Will the courses that have been delayed until 2009 on the recommendation of teacher juries be redirected back to juries for approval prior to implementation?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Given the changes to the courses announced by the Minister in January 2007, what role will levels perform in terms of assessment within the courses?
- (4) Given that most schools are currently conducting their semester one, year 11 and 12 examinations, have the unit descriptors for the year 11 courses been completed?
- (5) If no to (4), -

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- (a) why not; and
- (b) when will they be available to schools?

4955. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Corrective Services

Regarding the management of Roebourne Prison and the program at Decca Station, I ask -

- (1) What is the capacity of the prison?
- (2) How many prisoners does the prison hold as of today?
- (3) What is the percentage of occupancy?
- (4) How many of the current prisoners are minimum security prisoners?
- (5) What percentage is this of the overall prison population in Roebourne?
- (6) What is the prisoner work capacity of Decca station?
- (7) How long has it taken the Department to prepare the station as a prisoner work camp?
- (8) How many full time employees were working on this project within the Department?
- (9) When will the program be fully operational?
- (10) What was the cost of removing asbestos from the buildings?
- (11) What community consultation occurred in the development of this program?
- (12) How long will prisoners stay at Decca for each course?
- (13) What is the timeframe for this program?
- (14) Will the program be evaluated upon completion?
- (15) If yes to (14), who will do the evaluation?
- (16) If no to (14), why not?
- (17) How many prisoners scheduled to working at Decca station could have been released on parole into the community?

4956. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for State Development

On 29 May 2007, the Parliamentary Secretary Representing the Minister for State Development, stated that, 'The Government and its Agencies have been communicating in recent months with United Mineral Corporation (UMC) and other parties in the course of normal operations to provide information that is on the public record in relation to the status of the occupancy rights to Temporary Reserve 70/5610H (TR) at the Mitchell Plateau and certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR', and I ask -

- (1) In relation to UMC, on what date did the Government or its Agencies first have communications with UMC and/or its associated entities (UMC) in relation to the status of the

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- occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR?
- (2) Can the Minister please table the communications has he had between the Government or its Agencies with UMC in relation to the TR?
 - (3) If no to (2), to the extent that the communications have related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR, can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to UMC?
 - (4) To the extent that the communications have not related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR (but have related to bauxite mining and/or alumina developments in the Kimberley region), can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to UMC?
 - (5) In relation to Norsk Hydro and/or its associated entities (Hydro), has the Government or its Agencies had direct communications with Hydro in relation to the TR?
 - (6) If yes to (5), with whom and on what date did these communications first take place?
 - (7) If yes to (5), with whom and on what other dates have these communications taken place?
 - (8) Can the Minister please table the communications had between the Government or its Agencies with Hydro in relation to the TR?
 - (9) If no to (8), to the extent that the communications have related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR, can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Hydro?
 - (10) To the extent that the communications have not related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR (but have related to bauxite mining and/or alumina developments in the Kimberley region), can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Hydro?
 - (11) What was the earliest date on which the Government or its Agencies first became aware of Hydro's potential interest in a bauxite and alumina development in the Kimberley region?
 - (12) How did the Government and/or its Agencies first become aware of Hydro's potential interest in a bauxite and alumina development in the Kimberley region?
 - (13) The Norwegian Government holds approximately 43.8 percent of the issued capital of Hydro and up to 49.9 percent of the voting rights in that company. The Norwegian Government is also reported to hold a stabilization reserve valued at around US\$300B (Bloomberg 2007). The INPEX Maret Islands gas development is forecast to come into production by end 2012/ start 2013. Does the Government believe that these considerations make the UMC/ Hydro development far more likely to proceed than the many previous development proposals bauxite/ alumina proposals that have been put forward for the Mitchell Plateau/North Kimberley?

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- (14) In relation to BHP Billiton and/or its associated entities (BHP Billiton), has the Government or its Agencies had direct communications with BHP Billiton in relation to the TR since 30 June 2006?
- (15) If yes to (14), with whom and on what dates?
- (16) If yes to (14), what was the date of the most recent communication and with whom was that communication with?
- (17) If yes to (14), can the Minister please table the communications between the Government or its Agencies and BHP Billiton in relation to the TR?
- (18) If no to (17), to the extent that the communications have related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR, can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to BHP Billiton?
- (19) To the extent that the communications have not related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR (but have related to bauxite mining and/or alumina developments in the Kimberley region), can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to BHP Billiton?
- (20) In relation to Chalco and/or its associated entities, has the Government or its Agencies had direct communications with Chalco in relation to the TR since 30 June 2006?
- (21) If yes to (20), with whom and on what dates?
- (22) If yes to (20), what was the date of the most recent communication and with whom was that communication with?
- (23) If yes to (20), can the Minister please table the communications between the Government or its Agencies and Chalco in relation to the TR?
- (24) If no to (23), to the extent that the communications have related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR, can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Chalco?
- (25) To the extent that the communications have not related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR (but have related to bauxite mining and/or alumina developments in the Kimberley region), can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Chalco?
- (26) In relation to Hindalco of India and/or its associated entities (Hindalco), has the Government or its agencies had direct communications with Hindalco in relation to the TR since 30 June 2006?
- (27) If yes to (26), with whom and on what dates?
- (28) If yes to (26), what was the date of the most recent communication and with whom was that communication with?

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- (29) If yes to (26), can the Minister please table the communications between the Government or its Agencies and Hindalco in relation to the TR?
- (30) If no to (29), to the extent that the communications have related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR, can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Hindalco?
- (31) To the extent that the communications have not related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR (but have related to bauxite mining and/or alumina developments in the Kimberley region), can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Hindalco?
- (32) In relation to United Co. Rusal and/or its associated entities, has the Government or its Agencies had direct communications with Rusal in relation to the TR since 30 June 2006?
- (33) If yes to (32), with whom and on what dates?
- (34) If yes to (32), what was the date of the most recent communication and with whom was that communication with?
- (35) If yes to (32), can the Minister please table the communications between the Government or its Agencies and Rusal in relation to the TR?
- (36) If no to (35), to the extent that the communications have related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR, can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Rusal?
- (37) To the extent that the communications have not related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR (but have related to bauxite mining and/or alumina developments in the Kimberley region), can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Rusal?
- (38) In relation to Alcan Bauxite and/or its associated entities, has the Government or its Agencies had direct communications with Alcan in relation to the TR since 30 June 2006?
- (39) If yes to (38), with whom and on what dates?
- (40) If yes to (38), what was the date of the most recent communication and with whom was that communication had?
- (41) If yes to (38), can the Minister please table the communications between the Government or its Agencies and Alcan in relation to the TR?
- (42) If no to (41), to the extent that the communications have related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR, can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Alcan?
- (43) To the extent that the communications have not related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR

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- (but have related to bauxite mining and/or alumina developments in the Kimberley region), can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to Alcan?
- (44) Are there any other parties, not referred to in the above questions, with which the Government or its Agencies has had communications in relation to the TR since 30 June 2006?
- (45) If yes to (44), with whom and on what dates?
- (46) If yes to (44), what was the date of the most recent communication and with whom was that communication with?
- (47) If yes to (44), can the Minister please table the communications between the Government or its Agencies and each of the parties mentioned in (45), in relation to the TR?
- (48) If no to (47), and the communications have related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR, can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to each of the parties mentioned in (45)?
- (49) If the communications have not related to the status of the occupancy rights to the TR and/or certain public record geological data pertaining to the resources within the TR (but have related to bauxite mining and/or alumina developments in the Kimberley region), can the Minister please provide a detailed overview as to what the Government and or its Agencies have communicated to each of the parties mentioned in (45)?
- (50) What are the proportionate beneficial ownership interests of the Mitchell Plateau Joint Venture, as split between Rio Tinto and Alcoa of Australia?

4957. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources

In answers to question No's, 2090, 2092, 4799 and 4780, in regard to water licence administration fees to be introduced from July 2007, the Minister for Water Resources 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 has said 29 percent (\$1 678 201) of the \$5.8 million revenue relates to checking compliance with licence conditions, maintaining licensing databases, management of appeals and community awareness, and 2 percent (\$130 000) relates to assessing applications for new licences. I ask -

- (1) What specific service or services is the other 69 percent (\$4 million) of the \$5.8 million revenue from water licence fees related to?
- (2) If the majority of the \$5.8 million revenue is to be applied to services that have not been previously specified, why weren't the services specified?
- (3) In regard to water licence administration, what services other than assessing applications for new licences, checking compliance with licence conditions, maintaining licensing databases, management of appeals and community awareness, does the Department of Water provide, that are included in annual licence fees?

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4958. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources

In answer to question No. 4799, the Minister for Water Resources said in rejecting the analogy of a driver's licence fee equivalent for an annual water licence fee that it is not equitable to charge the same fee to licences with different water entitlements. In relation to the \$200 fee for an application for a water licence, I ask -

- (1) Why is a flat \$200 application fee appropriate for licences sought for different water allocations, when a flat annual licence administration fee is not?
- (2) What rationale was used to determine that an application fee should be \$200?
- (3) How many new licence applications were assessed in 2005-06, and what was the total cost of conducting the assessments?
- (4) The answer to question No. 4780 estimated that in 2006-07 there would be 640 applications for new licences for estimated revenue of \$130 000. Will this fully recover the cost of assessment of the 640 applications?
- (5) If no to (4), what is the estimated actual cost in 2006-07?
- (6) Does the \$200 application fee recover the cost of assessing an application for a water licence across the seven classes of licences ranging from less than five megalitres to greater than five gigalitres allocation?
- (7) If the \$200 application fee doesn't recover the cost of assessing an application for a water licence across the seven classes of licences, why doesn't it?
- (8) What is the average time in hours applied by Department of Water officers to assess an application for -
 - (a) a surface water licence for a less than 50 megalitre allocation;
 - (b) a ground water licence for less than 50 megalitre allocation;
 - (c) surface water licence for a greater than one gigalitre allocation; and
 - (d) ground water licence for a greater than one gigalitre allocation?
- (9) What was the average time in hours required of Department of Water officers to assess an application for -
 - (a) surface water licence; and
 - (b) a ground water licence in 2005-06?

MIA BETJEMAN

Clerk of the Legislative Council