

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Question on notice

18 AUG 2011

Tuesday, 21 June 2011

4241. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs.

In reference to the area surrounding the Horizontal Waterfalls in Talbot Bay in the Buccaneer Archipelago, Kimberley, and photographs at [http://www.robinchapple.com/qdata "2011-05-25 Fires Pegasus Horizontal Falls.pdf"](http://www.robinchapple.com/qdata/2011-05-25%20Fires%20Pegasus%20Horizontal%20Falls.pdf), I ask -

- (1) Was any permission sought or given by the Traditional Owners or the Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) to Pegasus Metals to clear tracts of land approximately 600 meters long for their exploration camp on their lease adjacent to the Horizontal Waterfalls?
- (2) If yes to (1), when and why?
- (3) If no to (1), will the department investigate who provided permission?
- (4) If no permission was provided in respect of (1) or (3), will the Minister initiate prosecution of the offenders?
- (5) Has permission been given by the Traditional Owners or the DIA for water to be pumped from a nearby spring to the mining camp established on the Pegasus lease?
- (6) If yes to (5), when was this permission granted and why?
- (7) If no to (5), is any action available to the Minister in respect of this matter?
- (8) If yes to (7), will the Minister initiate such action?

Answer

- (1) No, the Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) did not grant permission and has not been advised if the Traditional Owners granted permission.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Yes
- (4) A response will be determined upon adequate investigation of the matter.
- (5) No, DIA did not grant permission and has not been advised if the Traditional Owners granted permission.

(6)Not applicable

(7)No

(8)Not applicable

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Gillin', written in a cursive style.

Minister for Indigenous Affairs