

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question on notice

18 OCT 2011

Wednesday, 28 September 2011

4796. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

I refer to my previous question on notice No. 4507, and ask -

In regards to an intermodal hub at Parkeston for the transfer of uranium from truck to rail, referred to in four uranium scoping documents submitted by Cameco, BHP Billiton, Mega Uranium and Toro Energy, and more recently in the ERMP for the Wiluna uranium mine by Toro Energy Pty Ltd -

- (1) Who is the proponent for the facility at Parkeston?
- (2) If there is no proponent, what is the State Government's role in advancing the Parkeston facility?
- (3) Is the State Government intending to seek expressions of interest or tenders for the development of the Parkeston facility?
- (4) Is the State Government supportive of the establishment of the facility at Parkeston?
- (5) What is the State Government's preferred process for establishing a facility at Parkeston, and what is the next step in this process?
- (6) What discussions have been had between the State Government and the Kalgoorlie Council about the Parkeston facility?
- (7) What discussions have been had between the State Government and the Federal Government about the Parkeston Facility?
- (8) Based on preliminary discussions, what corporation(s) or government agencies would finance the project?
- (9) Has the State Government or the Kalgoorlie Council had any preliminary consultation with the communities in the North East Suburbs of Kalgoorlie or the Ninga Mina Aboriginal Community about the facility?
- (10) If no to (9), why not?
- (11) Has the State Government, Department of Mines and Petroleum and/or the Radiological Council had discussions about arrangements for uranium shipments before a transfer station has been built?
- (12) If yes to (11), what is the preferred route for trucking uranium?
- (13) If no to (11), why not?

Answer

- (1) - (10) These questions will be answered by the Minister for Regional Development; Lands. The Department of Mines and Petroleum will liaise with the Department of Regional Development and Lands and the companies developing uranium projects in the Eastern Goldfields in relation to the transport of uranium.
- (11) Yes. The Department of Mines and Petroleum has had some preliminary discussions with proponents in relation to the transport of uranium ore. Transport of uranium is regulated by the Radiological Council.
- (12) The preferred route has not yet been determined for most companies. However, in its Environmental Review and Management Plan (ERMP, section 2, page 34), Toro Energy indicates that it plans to transport uranium ore via road to the Port of Adelaide. Toro also states that it would continue to evaluate the potential to transfer product from road to rail near Kalgoorlie, should a proposed intermodal facility at Parkeston be developed during the life of the mine.
- (13) Not applicable.



MINISTER FOR MINES AND PETROLEUM