LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1289

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE (Of which some notice has been given)

Tuesday, 8 November 2011

Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs.

With regard to the Fortescue Metals Group (FMG) Firetail and Solomon Hub projects on Yindjibarndi land;

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a letter (via email) dated 5 November 2011 from archaeologist Sue Singleton to the Registrar of Aboriginal Sites, which raises concerns about information provided by FMG in the section 18 application process?
- (2) Will the Minister establish an inquiry into the conduct of FMG in this matter?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?
- (4) How is the Minister responding to the serious allegations raised in the letter?
- (5) Will the Minister commence prosecution for unlawful damage or alteration of an Aboriginal site?
- (6) If no to (5), why not, and how is the Minister responding to the complaint of unlawful damage to an Aboriginal site?

I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(6) The Department of Indigenous Affairs has initiated an investigation into the matter.

The outcome of the investigation will determine any future action taken.

Minister for Indigenous Affairs