

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Question on notice

22 NOV 2011

Tuesday, 18 October 2011

4821. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Transport.

With reference to the Exmouth Marina Expansion Stage 1, I ask -

- (1) Will Stage 1 Expansion of Exmouth Marina allow increased vessel use and movement?
- (2) If yes to (1), what level of increased vessel traffic is -
 - (a) expected; and
 - (b) made possible by these expansions?
- (3) Is the Minister aware of other projects within Exmouth Gulf, actual or planned, which could increase vessel traffic within Exmouth Gulf?
- (4) If yes to (3), will the Minister please provide a list of these projects within Exmouth Gulf?
- (5) Has there been opportunity for public consultation regarding Exmouth Marina Stage 1 Expansion?
- (6) If no to (5), why not?
- (7) If yes to (5), will the Minister please provide details?
- (8) Has the Department of Transport consulted with any cetacean experts to ascertain possible impacts of increased traffic on resting humpback whales utilizing Exmouth Gulf?
- (9) If no to (8), why not?
- (10) If yes to (8), will the Minister please provide details?
- (11) Has the Department of Transport consulted with the Western Australian Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ascertain if increased vessel movements will impact on the Exmouth Gulf marine biota?
- (12) If no to (11), why not?
- (13) Has the Department of Transport referred Exmouth Marina Expansion Stage 1 to the EPA?
- (14) If no to (13), why not?

The Department of Transport advises:

(1) Yes

(2)(a - b) Up to 25 vessels but a large number of those vessels are already operating in the Exmouth Gulf and surrounding areas.

(3) Yes

(4) Exmouth limestone and MG Kailis Group Pty Ltd Learmonth projects.

(5) Yes

(6) Not applicable

(7) In 2008 when an option to expand the harbour basin was considered, an extensive community consultation process was conducted through the Exmouth Harbour Development Community Consultation.

(8) No

(9) The Department of Transport has no control over vessel movements in the Exmouth Gulf.

(10) Not applicable

(11) No

(12) The increased vessel movements are as a result of vessels servicing the resources sector and the Environmental Protection Authority would have been consulted in the approval processes associated with those developments.

(13) No

(14) The Department of Transport will consult with the Environmental Protection Authority regarding approvals and conditions prior to any works commencing.

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