

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 20 March 2012

Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for State Development

With regard to the proposed Gas Hub at James Price Point, I ask:

- (1) Given the Supreme Court decision that the notices of intention to compulsorily acquire are invalid, has the Government taken this opportunity to further consider alternate sites for a Browse Gas Hub?
- (2) Will the Government now take this opportunity to complete the assessment of alternate sites for the Gas Hub?
- (3) If no to (2) why not?
- (4) And, further to question without notice 001 answered on Tuesday 6 March 2012, since September 2011 has the government had communications with any company or companies other than Woodside, in relation to being proponents for the Browse LNG precinct?
- (5) If yes to (4), which companies?

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

Before providing the answer, I would like to point out to the Hon Member that in part (4) he has referred to question without notice 001, when in fact it is *Hansard* reference number 29.

(1-3) A comprehensive assessment of over 40 alternate sites was conducted in 2007 and 2008 by the State Government. Sites were considered in the Kimberley, Pilbara and Northern Territory, and assessed against a range of environmental, technical, economical and cultural criteria.

The location for the Browse LNG Precinct was selected on the basis that it provided the best opportunity to minimise the environmental impact of developing the Browse Basin gas reserves by providing a single location for all future LNG development along the Kimberley coastline, while at the same time creating meaningful opportunities for the local community.

The Government will not be revisiting the site assessment process.

(4-5) Government regularly promotes potential investment opportunities, including the Browse LNG Precinct, in a range of forums. At present, no company besides the Woodside led Browse Joint Venture has committed to becoming a potential proponent of the Precinct.

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