

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**  
**Question on notice**

- 1 MAY 2012

**Thursday, 29 March 2012**

5389. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

In reference to the Uranium Regulation Panel (the panel) established by the Minister

- (1) How much has been spent on the panel to date?
- (2) How much funding is required for the panel to finish their required task?
- (3) Is there an estimated cost of implementing the recommendations of the panel?
- (4) Can the Minister outline what stage of their required tasks the panel is currently up to?
- (5) What is a total expected cost of the panel's investigation of uranium regulations?
- (6) Will the Minister table the report from the panel to the Department of Mines and Petroleum that was provided to the department in late 2011?
- (7) If no to (6), why not?
- (8) Has the department finished its response to the benchmarking of uranium regulations in Western Australia?
- (9) If yes to (8), will the Minister table that response?

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**Answer**

- (1) A total of \$201,875 including GST has been spent on the contract for the independent review of uranium mining regulation.
- (2) The contract for services sets out a remaining fee of \$65,625, including GST, to complete Outcome 1 of the contract, which is to review and benchmark the regulatory framework in Western Australia against World Best Practice.
- (3) No. The report states that the regulatory framework already has the elements of World Best Practice and is adequate for ensuring environmental protection. The report also makes recommendations to further enhance this framework. The majority of the actions required to address the recommendations are being, or will be, implemented as part of the Resources Safety reform strategy (RADARS), the environmental regulation reform initiatives and the Lead Agency framework. The implementation of these reform

initiatives is currently funded or in the process of being developed to identify potential funding implications.

- (4) The contractor finalised the report on the review of uranium mining regulation and submitted it to the Department of Mines and Petroleum on 16 April 2012.
- (5) The total cost of the independent review of the uranium regulation is \$267,500 including GST.
- (6) No.
- (7) The report submitted in late 2011 from the contractor to the Department of Mines and Petroleum was an incomplete draft report. The Department will release the final independent review report and recommendations before June 2012.
- (8) No, the Department has not yet completed its response to the recommendations in the final report.
- (9) Not applicable.



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**MINISTER FOR MINES AND PETROLEUM**