

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 18 September 2012

Hon. Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mines.

I refer to the announcement by the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia that Lynas has now submitted an application to the regulator, the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), to import radioactive waste from Malaysia, and ask:

1. Is the Minister aware of this application?
2. If yes to 1.) when did he become aware?
3. If the application to the regulator, the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), is granted to import the radioactive waste from Malaysia, will the State of Western Australia accept that waste?
4. If yes to 3.) why?
5. If no to 3.) why not?

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

1. No. However, I am aware that Lynas is considering a range of options.
2. Not applicable.
3. The Commonwealth Government is responsible for regulating the importation of radioactive material, and it would be inappropriate for the State to pre-empt any decision by the Commonwealth Government.
- 4.-5. At this stage this is a matter for the Commonwealth Government.

