

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

C283

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

Wednesday, 19 March 2014

Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment.

With regard to the proposed Sorby Hills Silver Lead Zinc mine near Kununurra that is being developed by Sorby Management Pty Ltd, a joint venture between KBL Mining Ltd and Yuguang (Australia) Pty Ltd, I ask:

- (1) What is the procedure for the handling of lead concentrate from the Sorby Hills mine to the Port of Wyndham that has been approved by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)?
- (2) Has the EPA made any changes to these procedures or to the licence arrangements or other conditions in relation to the transport of lead from the Sorby Hills mine area to the Port of Wyndham?
 - (a) If yes, what are the details of these changes?
- (3) Will the lead concentrate be transported in the sealed 'Rotabox' containers as per the Environmental Scoping Document?
 - (a) If no to (3), would the Minister please describe the containers that will be used?

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

- (1)-(3) In the Environmental Protection Authority's report 1491, the Authority recommended that the handling of the lead concentrate from the Sorby Hills mine to the Port of Wyndham be regulated through the use of Sealed 'Rotabox' (or equivalent standard) containers and through a proposed condition on concentrate handling, storage and transport in Port of Wyndham.

The Minister for Environment dismissed an appeal against the EPA's report 1491 on 18 February 2014 after considering a report from the Appeals Convenor. You can access the Ministers decision and reasons at the Office of the Appeals Convenors web site. A final decision on whether or not the proposal should be implemented will now be the subject of consultation with relevant decision making authorities.



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