

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question on notice

Tuesday, 17 June 2014

1292. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

I refer to the Mining Registrar, and not the mining registrars regional offices, and I ask:

- (a) what qualifications are required for the position of Mining Registrar;
 - (b) what is the role of the Mining Registrar;
 - (c) what are the duties of the Mining Registrar;
 - (d) how much does the position of Mining Registrar cost the Government; and
 - (e) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of the cost in (d)?
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Answer

The Department of Mines and Petroleum advises:

- (a) The Mining Registrar must have knowledge, understanding and the ability to interpret legislation relating to approvals and the ability to provide high level service to a diverse range of customers.
- (b) The Mining Registrar carries out statutory functions under the *Mining Act 1978* and in particular, the assessment of tenement applications made pursuant to the Act.
- (c) The Mining Registrar:
 - Issues Miner's Rights.
 - Assesses and issues permits to prospect on Crown land that is the subject of an Exploration Licence.
 - Assesses applications for mining tenements to ensure compliance with the application provisions of the *Mining Act 1978*:
 - determines non-contested prospecting licences and miscellaneous licences; and
 - makes the recommendation to the Minister to grant or otherwise refuse non-contested applications for exploration licences, retention licences, general purpose leases and mining leases depending on whether or not the application provisions of the *Mining Act 1978* have been satisfied.
 - Commences forfeiture proceedings in circumstances where the holder of a prospecting licence or miscellaneous licence has failed to comply with the annual reporting conditions or failed to pay annual rentals within prescribed timelines.

- Signs summonses, judgement orders, warrants and other processes issued out of the Warden's Court.
 - Assesses costs in contested proceedings in the Warden's Court as directed by the Warden.
 - Issues certificates of judgement for enforcement.
 - Generally oversees the administration of procedures emanating from the Warden's Court.
 - Assists in maintaining the register of mining tenements administered under the *Mining Act 1978*.
 - Is responsible for managing a number of staff who attend to receiving various processes under the *Mining Act 1978* and responding to customer enquiries.
- (d) The cost to government for each Mining Registrar is in two parts, which are detailed below in (e). The first is salary and associated costs and the second covers allowances and assistance with housing, which differ according to region and family circumstances.
- (e) The Mining Registrar is appointed at Level 6. The highest salary and associated costs at the Level 6 range (at least four years at Level 6) is \$124 267. This comprises the following:

Annual salary \$101 517;
 Workers Compensation 1.9% of annual salary (\$929);
 Annual leave 7.69% of annual salary (\$7 807);
 Long Service Leave 3.57% of annual salary (\$3 624);
 Superannuation 9.25% of annual salary (\$9 390).

The following allowances are provided for under the Public Service Award, however there are a number of variables including locality, means of travel, distance, whether the officer has dependants, which impact on the amount of the allowance and make it difficult to specify an actual cost. Reference can be made to the Award in respect to the rules and allowances payable:

- District allowance
- Travel allowance
- Relieving allowance

An air conditioning subsidy is provided for under the Government Regional Officers' – Government Housing Air Conditioning Policy, again there are a number of variables and reference should be made to the Policy.

A housing subsidy, via the Government Regional Officers' Housing Scheme, is provided by the Department with an overall cost of \$178 777 per annum where applicable.