

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

**Tuesday, 12 August 2014**

1338. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment.

I refer to question on notice No. 1124 asked on 6 May 2014 regarding the Coolgardie State Battery Mineral Processing Reserve 9435, and the report by CSIRO Minerals, which may be found at:  
<http://www.robinchapple.com/sites/default/files/Hg%20speciation%20results.pdf>, specifically answer to (f), and ask:

- (a) has the Department of Environment Regulation worked with the responsible parties, including the Contaminated Sites Committee, to conduct an investigation of this site for contamination;
- (b) if yes to (a), is this a contaminated site;
- (c) if no to (a), why not;
- (d) if yes to (b), who is responsible for ensuring remediation occurs;
- (e) if yes to (b), when will remediation occur; and
- (f) if the site is contaminated but remediation will not occur, why not?

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**Answer**

- (a) Yes. The Department of Environment Regulation (DER) has formally communicated with Gold Corporation, the owner of the site, on the requirement to investigate, monitor and assess the site in accordance with the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003* (CS Act). DER does not consult with the Contaminated Sites Committee on the requirement to investigate sites.
- (b) The site, which consists of Lot 67 on Plan 215250, was classified as *possibly contaminated – investigation required* under section 13 of the CS Act on 7 February 2007. Further investigation is required to determine the nature and extent of any impact, followed by a risk assessment to determine whether the levels of substances present in soil, surface water or groundwater represent a risk of harm to human health, the environment or environmental values.
- (c) Not applicable
- (d) As the site has not yet been adequately investigated or assessed, it is not known if remediation will be required.
- (e) DER has been advised that works (potentially including remediation), if required, are scheduled for March 2018.
- (f) Not applicable

