

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

**Wednesday, 20 August 2014**

1502. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy.

- (1) What was Pilbara Cities involvement in the Pilbara Underground Power Project?
- (2) Who was the general manager of Pilbara Cities and when did the person start and finish?
- (3) Regarding the answer to (2), what is this person's current employment position and when did they start?
- (4) Did Horizon Power use Western Power's Underground Power Program due diligence guidelines and processes when assessing/evaluating the Pilbara Underground Power Project?
- (5) If no to (4), why not?
- (6) Did the Pilbara Underground Power Project have an independent probity auditor employed on the project ensuring all of its processes were transparent?
- (7) If no to (6), why not?
- (8) Did Horizon Power do a risk assessment on Karratha's rocky ground conditions for underground drilling before it started on the Pilbara Underground Power Project?
- (9) If no to (8), why not?
- (10) Were risks such as Karratha's rocky terrain, high cost of accommodation and availability discussed with the tenderers?
- (11) If no to (10), why not?
- (12) Were sight inspections to Karratha recommended by Horizon Power as part of the tender process?
- (13) If no to (12), why not?

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**Answer**

- (1) Pilbara Cities provided a representative on the external steering committee to provide oversight of the Pilbara Underground Power project.
- (2) Chris Adams from August 2010-September 2012.
- (3) CEO of the City of Karratha from September 2012.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) Not applicable.

(8) Yes, there was a specific map categorising areas of rock in the original tender documents.

(9) Not applicable.

(10) The rocky terrain was discussed and known and the tender price was prepared on the best information at the time. Accommodation and labour costs escalated in the period 2011-2013 as the project competed with many other high-profile projects in the Pilbara.

(11) Not applicable.

(12) Yes site inspections were a mandatory component of the tender process.

(13) Not applicable.

*M Nathan*