

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question on notice

Tuesday, 14 October 2014

1734. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy.

With reference to an article entitled *New Power for Pilbara* in the quarterly Department of Mines and Petroleum *Prospect* magazine, I firstly welcome the proposal for a combined cycle power plant at South Hedland, I ask:

- (a) will the combined cycle functionality of the proposed South Hedland gas power plant be included from inception;
- (b) if no to (a), why not;
- (c) if no to (a), are there provisions for the inclusion of combined cycle functionality at the proposed South Hedland gas power plant;
- (d) if yes to (c), what are the provisions for the inclusion of combined cycle functionality at the proposed South Hedland gas power plant;
- (e) has the combined cycle functionality of the proposed South Hedland gas power plant been factored into the projected power demand outlook for the Pilbara;
- (f) will all waste heat from the proposed South Hedland gas power plant be redirected into a combined cycle system;
- (g) if no to (f), why not; and
- (h) what guarantee can the Department of Mines and Petroleum provide that the combined cycle functionality of the proposed South Hedland gas power plant will indeed be built?

Answer

Note: Horizon Power will not own or build the power plant referred to however it has provided some information. Further questions should be directed to TransAlta Energy.

- (a) Yes
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) Not applicable.
- (e) Yes
- (f) The new TransAlta facility will comprise of three gas turbines, two of which will be installed with waste heat recovery processes and a steam turbine, and one gas turbine will be installed as an open cycle unit.

The majority of the waste heat will be recovered through the waste heat recovery system. If the plant is lightly loaded or is undergoing maintenance, then the open cycle gas turbine will

be operating. In these scenarios some waste heat may not be recovered. However, Horizon Power expects the normal operation to make full use of the combined cycle block of the power station.

(g) Not applicable.

(h) Not applicable.

M. Kaban