

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Question on notice

Tuesday, 16 June 2015

3209. Hon Robin Chappie to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

I refer to rainfall events in late March which filled the salina systems of Lake Way and Lake Maitland associated with the Wiluna uranium proposal, and ask:

(a) was the Minister aware of the flooding of Lake Way where the Wiluna uranium site was proposed;

(b) was the Minister aware that the proponent Toro Energy plans to store radioactive mine waste tailings in an area now inundated with water;

(c) given that the company completed a test pit at the Centipede site in 2011, has or will the Minister require a review of the site to assess if damage was done, or if radiation was released into the environment post-flooding; and

(d) given that a motion through parliament was supported to effectively isolate uranium tailings from the environment for no less than 10,000 years, does the Minister consider tailings in a mine pit on a lake bed that was submerged due to flooding can meet this requirement?

Answer

Please refer to Question on Notice 2999.

