



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question On Notice

Tuesday, 28 June 2016

4203. Hon Robin Chappie to the Minister for Planning representing the Minister for Environment

I refer to land-clearing south of the Broome North wastewater treatment plant on Lot 66, Crab Creek Road, Broome, and I ask:

- (a) is the Minister aware of land-clearing in this area;
- (b) has an application for a vegetation clearing permit been applied for on Lot 66, Crab Creek Road, Broome;
- (c) if yes to (b), when was it applied for, and by whom;
- (d) if no to (b), does the Minister agree this clearing was undertaken without a clearing permit;
- (e) how much land has been cleared;
- (f) when was the land cleared;
- (g) who cleared the land;
- (h) is this area of land in an Environmentally Sensitive Area;
- (i) if the clearing has taken place without a permit and is in contravention of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, will the Minister prosecute those responsible for the clearing;
- (j) if no to (i), why not, and what action will the Minister undertake; and
- (k) who is the owner of Lot 66, Crab Creek Road, Broome?

Answer

The Minister for Environment has provided the following response.

- (a) Yes. On 7 December 2015, the Department of Environment Regulation (DER) received a complaint in relation to native vegetation clearing south of the Broome North Wastewater Treatment Plant. As part of its investigation, DER identified that Lot 66, Crab Creek Road is Lot 535 on Deposited Plan 73704 Crab Creek Road, Roebuck.
- (b) No.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) DER has advised that no permit has been received for Lot 535 on Deposited Plan 73704 Crab Creek Road, Roebuck.
- (e) Approximately 50 hectares.
- (f) Between November 2012 and December 2015.
- (g) Wirilda Pty Ltd.

- (h) No.
- (i)-(j) I am precluded by virtue of section 114 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* from giving a direction or instruction to the Chief Executive Officer of DER in respect to a prosecution. I am advised that DER has concluded its investigations into this matter and, in accordance with its *Enforcement and Prosecution Policy*, issued a Letter of Warning to the responsible party.
- (k) There is no formal record of Lot 66, Crab Creek Road Broome. The primary interest holders of Lot 535 on Deposited Plan 73704 Crab Creek Road, Roebuck are Wirildi Pty Ltd and Barton Cecil Jones.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'AG' or a similar monogram, located in the lower right quadrant of the page.