

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question On Notice

Tuesday, 18 October 2016

4531. Hon Robin Chappie to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum

I refer to question on notice No. 3251 asked to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, on 16 June 2015, regarding the alleged damage to Buru Energy's Yulleroo 2 gas well in the Kimberley, and I ask:

- (a) will the Minister now revisit and fully answer these previously tabled questions, now that the associated criminal proceedings around a vandalism and trespass charge have been completed and the risk of contempt of court, previously cited as reason to refuse answering the questions, has passed;
- (b) if no to (a), why not;
- (c) in so doing, will the Minister concede that his repeated assertions that vandalism was the cause of the leaking well was not supported in a court of law;
- (d) if no to (c), why not;
- (e) will the Minister disclose the full report into the working order and alleged damage of the parts removed from the well 'Christmas tree' by Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) operatives after the leak had been reported, and include therein the current location of these parts;
- (f) if no to (e), why not; and
- (g) will the Minister publish the full history of well and associated site inspection visits made by DMP operatives to each unconventional gas well spudded in Western Australia since 2000, including a summary of observations made, recommendations given and actions taken?

Answer

Answer as at 18 October 2016:

- (a) Yes. Please refer to the "*Investigation Factual Report: Leak of Gas at Yulleroo-2*" tabled in response to Questions on Notice 4424.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) No.
- (d) The court proceedings only concerned the charge of trespass at the Yulleroo 2 site which resulted in a successful conviction of trespass to the site. The issue of vandalism was not considered by the court.
- (e) Yes. Please see the "*Investigation Factual Report: Leak of Gas at Yulleroo-2*" tabled in response to Questions on Notice 4424.
- (f) Not applicable.
- (g) No. The request for a report covering all details for all well inspection visits for all "unconventional" wells spudded in Western Australia since 2000 including a summary of all observations made and actions taken is a very broad request requiring significant agency resources and time for its completion. If there is a specific issue of concern I am happy to provide a response.

