

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question On Notice

Tuesday, 15 August 2017

140. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum

I refer to petroleum exploration applications in the Kimberley, and ask:

- (a) how much area did the permits cover that Andrew Forrest's Squadron Energy applied for in partnership with Goshawk Energy, in the Canning Basin last year;
- (b) when did they apply;
- (c) will the Minister table a map of the application area;
- (d) if no to (c), why not;
- (e) how much of the application area was accepted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP);
- (f) how much of the application area was rejected by the DMP;
- (g) what was the reason for the rejection;
- (h) will the Minister table the decision report; and
- (i) if no to (h), why not?

Answer

- (a) Applications for Special Prospecting Authority with Acreage Option (SPA-AO) under the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967* cannot be publicly disclosed as they are provided in confidence to the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.
- (b) The application was made in the 4th quarter, 2016.
- (c) Spatial descriptions of applications that have been progressed and are subject to a section 29 public notice, in accordance of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cwth)*, are available on the DMIRS website. Details of applications that are not subject to a section 29 public notice cannot be publicly disclosed as they are provided in confidence to the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.
- (d) Not applicable.
- (e) Applications that are subject to a section 29 notice total 46 223.04 km².
- (f) See response to (a).
- (g) Section 105(1) of the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967* lists criteria as to why an SPA-AO application may be rejected. The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety applies these criteria in assessing whether an SPA-AO application should be accepted or rejected.
- (h) The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety does not prepare a decision report.
- (i) Not applicable.



MINISTER FOR MINES AND PETROLEUM