

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question On Notice

Tuesday, 15 August 2017

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


I refer to Mining Lease 31/231 owned by Saracen Gold Mines, and ask:

- (a) can the Minister state what is the minimum total financial expenditure commitment/requirement on Mining Lease 31/231;
- (b) if no to (a), why not;
- (c) can the Minister explain the justification by also making reference to the statutory declaration, which was provided to explain why the application for exemption number 501692 was refused on Mining Lease 31/231;
- (d) on what specific date was the statutory declaration lodged with the Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) to support the application for exemption number 501692;
- (e) will the Minister now table a copy of the statutory declaration lodged with DMP to support the application for exemption number 501692;
- (f) if no to (e), why not;
- (g) is it correct that on the same day as the application for exemption number 501692 was refused the DMP issued an application for forfeiture number 506830;
- (h) if no to (g), what is correct;
- (i) can the Minister state the specific calculation methodology used by the DMP to calculate a recommended or suggested fine in relation to the application for forfeiture and the refusal for the application for exemption from expenditure requirements;
- (j) if no to (i), why not;
- (k) what was the monetary fine imposed on Mining Lease 31/231 as result of the application for forfeiture by the DMP;
- (l) is it correct that previous exemptions from financial expenditure requirements were granted in the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 for Mining Lease 31/231; and
- (m) if no to (l), what is specifically correct?

Answer

- (a) Yes. To date the total expenditure commitment is \$787 500.
- (b) Not applicable
- (c) The information contained in the statutory declaration was largely project based and was not considered to have included sufficient tenement specific information.
- (d) 27 March 2017
- (e) No
- (f) Information may contain commercial in confidence material and should be properly assessed under the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*.
- (g) Yes

- (h) Not applicable
- (i) Yes. For the first offence it is 10 per cent of shortfall with minimum of \$550.00 if individual or \$650.00 if body corporate. For the second offence it is 20 per cent of shortfall with minimum \$1 100.00 if individual or \$1 250.00 if body corporate. For the third and subsequent offence it is at the Minister's discretion.
- (j) Not applicable
- (k) \$4 278.00
- (l) Yes
- (m) Not applicable



MINISTER FOR MINES AND PETROLEUM