

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question On Notice

Tuesday, 2 April 2019

2041. Hon Robin Chappie to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport

I refer to the proposed dredging in Roebuck Bay in the Kimberley, part of which is Ramsar listed because of its internationally significant migratory birds, a hotspot for rare snubfin dolphins, and a marine park jointly managed with the Yawuru Traditional Owners, and ask:

- (a) how much is being spent on the dredging;
- (b) how many more ships are estimated to be able to use the Port if the dredging goes ahead;
- (c) has a cost-benefit analysis been undertaken on the proposal;
- (d) if no to (c), why not;
- (e) if yes to (c), will the Minister table the document;
- (f) has Kimberley Ports Authority considered altering the under keel clearance regulations to allow a larger window of time for ships to enter;
- (g) if no to (f), why not;
- (h) does the Kimberley Ports Authority, the department or the Minister have the power to change the under keel clearance so that dredging is not required;
- (i) if no to (h), why not;
- (j) in metres and centimetres, what is the minimum clearance available between the deepest point on vessels and the seabed for ships entering the Port of Broome;
- (k) can the Kimberley Ports Authority provide evidence that there will not be any risk of maintenance dredging following the initial proposed capital dredge in Roebuck Bay;
- (l) if no to (k), why not;
- (m) if yes to (k), will the Minister table the evidence;
- (n) in its proposal, has the Kimberley Port Authority considered the effects of cyclones and big wet season events in the accretion of dredged areas, for example, as in the unexpected circumstance at Darwin harbour, where studies showed no maintenance dredging would be needed, but in fact regular maintenance dredging is now required;
- (o) if no to (n), why not; and
- (p) if yes to (n), will the Minister table the document?

Answer

Refer to Legislative Council Question on Notice 2040.

