

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
Question On Notice

Tuesday, 19 November 2019

**2686. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water**

(1) I refer to the *North West Gas Development (Woodside) Agreement 1979* and the water supply agreement that the joint venturers and the Water Corporation have entered into in accordance with the Water Corporation's major consumers framework, and ask:

(a) will the Minister please table a copy of the Water Supply Agreement, dated 2 August 2019;

(b) if no to (a), why not;

(c) will the Minister provide details of the effective changes that will be made to the current water supply arrangement; and

(d) if no to (c), why not?

(2) I refer to the statement found in the Second Reading Speech on Thursday, 26 September 2019, "This replaces the existing rights and obligations of the State, including the Water Corporation, and the joint venturers under the State Agreement on water supply, and modernises the joint venturers' water supply arrangements in line with other resource companies operating in the Pilbara", and ask:

(a) will the Minister please list the other resource companies;

(b) are the water supply arrangements contained in the other resource companies State Agreements or in a separate agreement, as here;

(c) will the Minister please provide details of how this Water Supply Agreement can be varied; and

(d) if no to (c), why not?

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**Answer**

(1)

(a) - (b)

The agreement is not currently in the public domain and contains sensitive commercial-in-confidence information.

The terms of this agreement are more commercial in nature than had previously been agreed and follow the Water Corporation's Major Consumer Framework principles of full cost recovery from large customers. It brings the arrangements with the joint venturers in line with all other new and existing major water users.



- (c) The agreement is consistent with the principles of the Water Corporation's Major Consumers Framework (MCF). This framework ensures full cost recovery from large consumers.

Specifically the new agreement sets up contemporary commercial arrangements between Water Corporation and the joint venturers including pricing principles that better reflect the cost of providing this service now and into the future.

The term of the agreement has also been set to replace the previous opened ended arrangement.

- (d) Not applicable.

(2)

- (a) BHP

Rio Tinto Iron Ore

- (b) In separate agreements

- (c) The Water Supply Agreement can only be varied by:

- agreement of both parties, or
- changes in law

- (d) Not applicable.