

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question On Notice

Thursday, 14 May 2020

2945. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Regional Development

I refer to the tabled document, *Report on Consultants Engaged by Government for the six months ended 31 December 2019*, and I ask:

(a) for the consultancy service provided by Ernst and Young for the listed purpose of "economic modelling of carbon farming in WA to inform state carbon strategy through RDLF":

- (i) what was the scope of the services provided;
- (ii) who were the specific stakeholders consulted through the scope of the services;
- (iii) what were the recommendations and/or guidance provided through the scope of the services;
- (iv) which of the recommendations and/or guidance has been implemented and how has this been undertaken; and
- (v) if recommendations and/or guidance has not been implemented, why is this the case?

(b) for the consultancy service provided by Frank Weisenberger Consulting, for the report outlining Fitzroy River Environmental and Cultural Landscape review management plan within the Fitzroy Catchment in support of the Fitzroy Management Plan:

- (i) what was the scope of the services provided;
- (ii) who were the specific stakeholders consulted through the scope of the services;
- (iii) what were the recommendations and/or guidance provided through the scope of the services;
- (iv) which of the recommendations and/or guidance has been implemented and how has this been undertaken; and
- (v) if recommendations and/or guidance has not been implemented, why is this the case?

(c) for the consultancy service provided by Jackson Macdonald, for the report outlining renewable hydrogen refuelling station overview of the regulatory landscape:

- (i) what was the scope of the services provided;
- (ii) who were the specific stakeholders consulted through the scope of the services;
- (iii) what were the recommendations and/or guidance provided through the scope of the services;
- (iv) which of the recommendations and/or guidance has been implemented and how has this been undertaken; and
- (v) if recommendations and/or guidance has not been implemented, why is this the case?

(d) for the consultancy service provided by RFF Australia, for the report outlining economic and population characteristics of the Fitzroy river catchment in support of the Fitzroy river management plan:

- (i) what was the scope of the services provided;
- (ii) who were the specific stakeholders consulted through the scope of the services;
- (iii) what were the recommendations and/or guidance provided through the scope of the services;
- (iv) which of the recommendations and/or guidance has been implemented and how has this been undertaken; and
- (v) if recommendations and/or guidance has not been implemented, why is this the case?

(e) for the consultancy service provided by Western Land and Water Consulting, for the report outlining the response from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development to the Office of the Auditor General, into the management of dryland salinity:

- (i) what was the scope of the services provided;
- (ii) who were the specific stakeholders consulted through the scope of the services;
- (iii) what were the recommendations and/or guidance provided through the scope of the services;
- (iv) which of the recommendations and/or guidance has been implemented and how has this been undertaken; and
- (v) if recommendations and/or guidance has not been implemented, why is this the case?

Answer

(a)

(i) Assessment of direct economic costs and benefits of Human-Induced Regeneration carbon farming on pastoral lease lands.

(ii) Grazing Innovation
Tierra Australia
Pastoralists and Graziers' Association
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Pew Trusts
AI Carbon
10 Deserts Project
Carbon Neutral
Murdoch University
Clayton Utz
Carbon Market Institute

(iii) No recommendations made.

(iv) – (v) Not Applicable.

(b)

(i) Delivery of a review and assessment of natural and cultural resource management plans and programs in the Fitzroy River catchment to include:

- Identification and assessment of the documented natural and cultural conservation strategies and actions for the catchment; and
- A profile of the environmental and cultural landscapes of the Fitzroy River Catchment using existing data and information.

(ii) Former members of the Fitzroy Catchment Management Group (FITZCAM) and additional Traditional Owners and stakeholders in the catchment were surveyed on the content of the 2010 Fitzroy Catchment Natural Resource Management Plan.

Registered Native Title Body Corporates with Healthy Country Plans within the Catchment area, which include the following Aboriginal Corporations:

- Walalakoo
- Wilinggin
- Bunuba Dawangarri
- Yanunijarra
- Gooniyandi

Additionally, see tabled paper # for stakeholder groups who were invited to take part in a survey relating to a review of the status of the 2010 Fitzroy Catchment Natural Resource Management Plan.

(iii) – (v) The Report is not yet finalised.

(c)

(i) To undertake a high-level and preliminary review of the current regulatory landscape for hydrogen vehicle refuelling stations and fuel cell electric vehicles in Western Australia to identify where barriers and gaps might present and to provide recommendations and guidance to State Government on the nature of regulatory reform, if any, required for refuelling infrastructure for renewable hydrogen vehicles in Western Australia.

(ii) None.

(iii) The *Renewable Hydrogen Vehicle Refuelling Stations – An overview of the regulatory landscape* (Report) identified nine areas of regulation as potentially relevant and applicable for hydrogen vehicle refuelling stations and fuel cell electric vehicles and for the relevant legislation identified where potential gaps in current codes, procedures, standards etc. for dealing with hydrogen may lie.

(iv) The Report has equipped relevant State Government agencies with an understanding of the regulatory landscape and the relevant regulatory risks as it presents for hydrogen vehicle refuelling stations and fuel cell electric vehicles in Western Australia.

The State Government's Renewable Hydrogen Unit (RHU) at the Department of Jobs, Science, Tourism and Innovation – which is leading the Government's work to support the growth of a renewable hydrogen industry for Western Australia – is working with key regulatory agencies including the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety and the Department of Transport to further analyse potential gaps in the regulatory frameworks for hydrogen and develop options to improve the regulatory frameworks while ensuring strong safety and consumer protections.

(v) Work to improve the regulatory framework for hydrogen activities is ongoing.

(d)

(i) Completion of a statistical and socio-demographic profile of the Fitzroy River Catchment area using the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics data and other relevant, up-to-date and available information. The profile is a desktop analysis which includes an outline of key frameworks, plans, strategies and initiatives relevant to the Catchment area as well as profiling key industries.

(ii) None.

(iii) This report was a desktop assessment and literature review only which will be used to inform stakeholder consultation and drafting of the Fitzroy River Management Plan. The final report is now under review and consideration by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

(iv) None.

(v) The catchment profile does not contain recommendations. It provides a current snapshot of the catchment to inform the consultation and planning process underway and contents will be used to inform drafting of the Fitzroy River Management Plan.

(e)

(i) The services provided were to support the review of stakeholder submissions and assist with the drafting of a proposed response to the Auditor General's report.

(ii) See tabled paper #.

(iii)-(v) The proposed Government Response to the Auditor General's report into the management of dryland salinity, including recommendations, has been submitted to the Minister for consideration.



ATTACHMENT A – QON 2945 part (b) (ii)

Individuals from the following stakeholder groups were invited to take part in a survey relating to a review of the status of the 2010 Fitzroy Catchment Natural Resource Management Plan:

Australian Wildlife Conservancy
Australia's North West Tourism
Blina Station
Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation
Bush Heritage
Christmas Creek Station
CSIRO – Northern Australian Water Resource Assessment
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (WA)
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
Department of Mining, Industry Regulation and Safety (WA)
Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (WA)
Department of Premier and Cabinet
Department of Water and Environment Regulation
Emama Nguda Aboriginal Corporation
Environs Kimberley
Gibb River Station
Gogo Pastoral Company
Gooniyandi Aboriginal Corporation
Hancock Agriculture – Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd
Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation
Jubilee Station
Kalyeeda Station
Kimberley Aboriginal Pastoral Company
Kimberley Biosecurity Group
Kimberley Development Commission
Kimberley Land Council
Kimberley Language and Resource Centre
Kimberley Pilbara Cattleman's Association
Koongie Park Community
KRED Enterprises
Lamboos Station
Larrawa Station
Louisa Downs Station
Main Roads WA
Marra Worra Worra Aboriginal Corporation
Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council
Moola Bulla Station
Mowanjum Aboriginal Corporation
Mt Barnett Station
Mt Pierre Station
National Environment Science Program
National Indigenous Australians Agency
Pastoralist and Grazier Association (PGA)
Pew Australia
Rangelands NRM Coordinating Group Inc
Recfishwest
Ruby Plains Station
Shire of Derby West-Kimberley
Shire of Halls Creek
Shire of Wyndham / East Kimberley

Traditional Owners (from groups including Jaru, Kija, Mangala, Walmajarri, Warrawa)
Tiyatiya Aboriginal Corporation
Tourism WA
Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation
West Kimberley Land Conservation District Committee
Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators Council
Winun Ngari Aboriginal Corporation
Wilinggin Aboriginal Corporation
World Wildlife Fund
Yanunijarra Aboriginal Corporation
Yeeda Station
Yougawalla Station

ATTACHMENT B – QON 2945 part (e) (ii)

Attendee	Organisation
Glenice Batchelor	SGSL CDI
Mark Batty	WALGA
David Beatty	MLA
Keith Bradby	WA Landcare Network
David Broadhurst	South Coast NRM
Ben Coles	Wide Open Agriculture
Simon Cook	Curtin University – Premiers Agriculture Fellow
Geoff Craggs	Future Directions International
Andrew DelMarco	Peel/Harvey Catchment Council
Matthew Gilfellon	Shire of Dumbleyung
Doug Hall	PGA
Richard Harper	Murdoch University
Tom Hatton	EPA
Tom Hughson	Conservation Commission
Ross Kingwell	DPIRD/AEGIC
Callum Love	Northern Agriculture Catchments Council
Prof Alan Lymbery	Murdoch University
Kevin Lyons	Drainage
Rowan Maddern	GRDC
Bruce Manning	Great Southern Development Commission
Craig Manton	Main Roads
Ray Marchetti	Office of Auditor General
Dustin McCreery	Nurseries
Rob McFerran	Minister’s Office
Robert Nixon	Northern Agriculture Catchments Council
Hayley Norman	CSIRO
Gavin Partridge	Aquaculture - use of saline water
Keith Pekin	Perth NRM
Simon Taylor	South West Development Commission
Andrew Watson	Soil and Land Commissioner
Ray Wilson	Carbon Farming
Justin Wolfgang	Perth NRM
Don Woodcock	RegenWA
Natarsha Woods	Wheatbelt NRM
Tony York	WAFarmers