

PILBARA PORTS AUTHORITY — ODYSSEY MARINE

1078. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Minister for Ports:

I note that the minister requested legal advice from the State Solicitor's Office concerning the Pilbara Ports Authority's contract with Odyssey Marine because of concerns expressed by the Maritime Union of Australia.

- (1) When did the minister receive advice from the SSO?
- (2) With whom was that advice or the substance of that advice shared?
- (3) How was that advice or the substance of that advice shared, and by whom?
- (4) Will the minister table that advice?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1) Final advice was received on 7 May 2019.
- (2)–(3) The advice was not shared beyond my ministerial office. I advised Maritime Union of Australia officials at a subsequent meeting that I had sought legal advice on the matter, which concluded that the Pilbara Ports Authority had not acted unlawfully and that I considered the matter closed.
- (4) As I am sure the member would appreciate, SSO advice is confidential. If the member is concerned that this information may have been provided to third parties, it seems most odd that he would want it tabled for all the world to see.