

HYDRAULIC FRACTURING — SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY

341. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to my question without notice to the Minister for Environment on 12 September 2017 regarding the government's announcement that a panel will conduct a scientific inquiry into hydraulic fracking.

- (1) Have the panel members since been appointed?
- (2) If yes to (1), what was the selection process; how many members were appointed; what are their fields of expertise; and what are the terms of their remuneration?
- (3) What is the current anticipated time frame for the completion of the inquiry?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The chair of the independent panel, Dr Tom Hatton, was appointed by the government. Panel members with expertise in the areas of geology, hydrogeology, water, petroleum engineering, environment, health, ecotoxicity and social science were sought, in consultation with Dr Hatton. Panel members were appointed by the government. The panel members are Dr Tom Hatton, Dr Phillip Commander, Dr Ben Clennell, Dr Fiona Haslam McKenzie and Dr Jackie Wright. Details of panel members' expertise can be found on the fracking inquiry website. I will table a copy of the webpage. The panel members' terms of remuneration are \$2 000 per day, except the panel chair, who has not sought remuneration.

[See paper 1349.]

- (3) The panel expects to complete its report by the end of 2018.