

MINING, EXPLORATION TASKFORCE

189. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for Energy

In relation to the Minister's media release of August 1 2001 re Mining Law change would boost exploration - taskforce -

- (1) Who is on this taskforce and what organisation do they represent?
- (2) What were the terms of reference for this taskforce and when was it established?
- (3) Did this taskforce consult with any -
 - (a) local government authorities/organisation;
 - (b) conservation groups; and
 - (c) government departments?
- (4) If yes, which ones?
- (5) Did the taskforce consider the implications to conservation areas of its proposed amendments to the mining laws?
- (6) How many members of the public made submissions to this taskforce?
- (7) How were the public made aware that submissions could be made to this taskforce's deliberations?
- (8) If advertisements were placed will the Minister detail the publication(s) and the number of adverts placed in each?
- (9) To encourage the public to comment on the taskforce's discussion paper will the Minister detail what -
 - (a) newspapers; and
 - (b) periodical magazines, advertisements have been placed in?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

1. Chairperson – Mr Bardy McFarlane, National Native Title Tribunal
Mr Dan O'Dea, Ngaanyatjarra Land Council
Mr Adrian Murphy, Yamatji Land and Sea Council
Mr Peter Hwang, Kimberley Land Council
Mr Bertus DeVilliers, Goldfields Land Council
Mr Bill O'Donnell, Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association of WA
Mr Lloyd Jones, Croesus Mining (Association of Mining and Exploration Companies)
Mr John Millikan, AngloGold Australasia, (Chamber of Minerals and Energy).
Mr John Thurtell, Native Title Unit, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Mr Steve White, Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources
Mr Roy Burton, Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources
Mr Ron Pumphrey, Department of Land Administration
2. The Taskforce was established in April 2001. Its Terms of Reference are:

To meet as required to identify, assess and make recommendations to the Cabinet Standing Committee on Native Title (CSCNT) on the options available to progress existing mineral tenement and land title applications and facilitate mining, exploration and land development.

To assess and make recommendations to the CSCNT on the most appropriate means of progressing new mineral tenement and land title applications.

To assess and make recommendations to the CSCNT on the most appropriate means of utilising the resources committed by the Government to progressing mineral tenement and land title applications.

To consider template agreements, regional agreements and Indigenous Land Use Agreements as mechanisms for processing mineral tenement and land title applications and make recommendations to the CSCNT on their use throughout Western Australia.

- 3a. Yes.
- 3b. No, the Taskforce has not at this stage consulted with conservation groups.
- 3c. Yes.
- 4a. The Western Australian Municipal Association.
- 4b. Not applicable.
- 4c. Apart from the agencies represented on the Taskforce, the Taskforce consulted with the Department of Indigenous Affairs.
- 5. Not to date.
- 6. 2.
- 7. Through advertisements placed in the Kalgoorlie Miner and The West Australian on 2 May 2001.
A press release of 1 August 2001 indicated that the Taskforce sought feedback on the Discussion Paper by 31 August 2001.
In addition, calls for submissions and the discussion paper were made available on the Treasurer's website.
- 8. As above.
- 9. As above.