

MINING, NATIONAL PARKS AND RESERVES

244. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

Does the Government intend to allow areas from current or proposed -

- (a) National Parks; and
- (b) Nature Reserves,

to be excised for the purposes of facilitating mining if approached by a mining company to do so?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The process for excision from National Parks and A Class Nature Reserves requires the approval of both Houses of Parliament. This Government maintains a clear position of holding a presumption against granting such mining leases.