

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE (Of which some notice has been given)

Tuesday, 12 April 2011

Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for State Development

I refer to the assistance and advice provided to the proponents of the Vasse coal project through the Department of State Development. In response to my question 2893 of 19 October 2010, the minister gave a summary of the advice and information provided to the Vasse coal project proponents when I asked for actual information to be tabled.

(1) Will the minister please table the advice provided to the Vasse coal proponents under the lead agency frame work regarding the potential impacts of the proposal on matters such as infrastructure of the environment and regional communities as well as the social considerations that arise from the proposal?

(2) If no to (1), why not?

(3) Will the minister please table copies of all correspondence by email, letter or fax memos and related file notes about meetings and other conversations in person or by phone, and other telecommunications relevant to the gas coal project?

(4) If no to (3), why not?

(5) How many staff are involved in providing assistance to the proponents of the Vasse coal project?

(6) What identifiable additional costs were incurred in the provision of the assistance and support, for example, travel and consultants?

I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

(1-2) Advice provided to the proponents of the Vasse coal project was of a general nature and mostly provided verbally during meetings. The summary of this advice was provided in Legislative Council Question on Notice no 2893.

(3-4) The Department of State Development has had no discussions relating to a gas coal project in the Margaret River region.

(5) The Department of State Development has one Project Manager who provides project assistance to a number of coal and nickel projects, including the proponents of the Vasse coal project.

(6) Apart from normal operational costs, no additional costs were expended in relation to the provision of assistance to this project, and no consultants were employed by the Department of State Development.

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