

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2018-2019 Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment

RESOURCES, ENERGY AND UTILITIES, ARTS

Hearing: Friday 31 August 2018

Answers due by: Wednesday 26 September 2018

Budget Estimates Secretariat Phone 9230 3313 BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

RESOURCES

Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)

Resources regulator

(Questions to the Minister)

- 1. In relation to the Hon. Adam Searle MLC's correspondence to the Resources Regulator and the internal departmental issues raised in it:
 - (a) When did you first become aware of this correspondence to the Resources Regulator?
 - (b) Why did Mr Searle not receive any written response or acknowledgement of his correspondence prior to the Budget Estimates Hearing?
 - (c) Which Minister asked Acting Secretary Marcus Rey to telephone Mr Searle?
- Noting that part of the content of the letter was addressed in the Resources Regulator's report on the EL breach issue:

https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0004/820390/Ridgel ands-EU.pdf https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0010/820387/Decisi on-Document-Ridgelands-Coal-Resources-Enforceable-Undertaking-Jun-2018.pdf https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/media-events/news/2018/resourcesregulator-secures-more-money-for-muswellbrook-community-fund

- (a) Why was Mr Searle told that he would not be getting any formal and complete response to his correspondence?
- (b) Who gave Mr Ray that instruction, direction, or information to pass on to Mr Searle?

(Questions to Dr Develin)

- 3. In relation to the Hon. Adam Searle MLC's correspondence to the Resources Regulator and the internal departmental issues raised in it:
 - (a) When did you first become aware of Mr Searle's correspondence to the Resources Regulator?
 - (b) Why did Mr Searle not receive any written response or acknowledgement of his correspondence prior to the Budget Estimates Hearing?
 - (c) Which Minister asked Acting Secretary Marcus Rey to telephone Mr Searle?

 Noting that part of Mr Searle's letter was addressed in the Resources Regulator's report on the EL breach issue:

https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0004/820390/Ridgel ands-EU.pdf https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0010/820387/Decisi on-Document-Ridgelands-Coal-Resources-Enforceable-Undertaking-Jun-2018.pdf https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/media-events/news/2018/resourcesregulator-secures-more-money-for-muswellbrook-community-fund

- (a) Why was Mr Searle told that he would not be getting any formal and complete response to his correspondence?
- (b) Who gave Mr Ray that instruction, direction, or information to pass on to Mr Searle?

NB. the following image refers to the questions above titled "resources regulator"

Mon 3/09/2018 10:46 AM Adam Searle FW: Acting Secretary Dept Planning & Environment - Marcus Reay To Follow up. Start by Tuesday, 4 September 2018. Due by Tuesday, 4 September 2018.

٠ From: Robert Allen Sent: Thursday, 5 July 2018 11:53 AM To: Adam Searle <<u>Adam.Searle@parliament.nsw.gov.au</u>> Subject: Acting Secretary Dept Planning & Environment - Marcus Reay Phone 9274 6396 Harwin's Office has asked him to contact you - re your letter to the Resources Regulator and release of Regulator's Report From: Sent: Friday, 6 July 2018 1:54 PM To: Adam Searle <<u>Adam.Searle@parliament.nsw.gov.au</u>> Subject: Links to Resources Regular website Dear Mr Searle Following your conversation yesterday with Marcus Ray, Acting Secretary, about your letter to the Resources Regulator in this matter, Marcus has asked me to provide you with the links to the Resources Regular website which set out the Resources Regulator's report on her investigation, the enforceable undertaking received from Ridgelands Coal, and the Departmental media release about the investigation and undertaking. https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0004/820390/Ridgelands-EU.pdf https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/820387/Decision-Document-Ridgelands-Coal-Resources-Enforceable-Undertaking-Jun-2018.pdf $\label{eq:https://www.resourcesandgeoscience.nsw.gov.au/media-events/news/2018/resources-regulator-secures-more-money-for-muswellbrook-community-fund to the secure secu$ Kind regards Executive Assistant to Secretary NSW Department of Planning and Environment

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Hunter Water Corporation

- 5. Why did the dividend that Hunter Water was going to pay to the NSW Government for FY2017-18 change?
- 6. Why was the Minister proposing to gauge Hunter Water customers by increasing the dividend paid by Hunter Water in FY2017-18 by 271%?
- 7. What is the projected dividend for each of the following years:
 - (a) 2018-19;
 - (b) 2019-20;
 - (c) 2020-21;
 - (d) 2021-22?

Hunter Water Backlog Sewer

- 8. How many properties still require backlog sewer in:
 - (a) Heatherbrae
 - (b) Hinton
 - (c) Wallalong
 - (d) Medowie
 - (e) Salt Ash
 - (f) Bobs Farm
 - (g) Seaham
 - (h) Taylors Beach
- 9. What would be the cost of delivering backlog sewer connections to:
 - (a) Heatherbrae
 - (b) Hinton
 - (c) Wallalong
 - (d) Medowie
 - (e) Salt Ash
 - (f) Bobs Farm

- (g) Seaham
- (h) Taylors Beach
- 10. When does the NSW Government intend to fund the connection to sewer to properties in:
 - (a) Heatherbrae
 - (b) Hinton
 - (c) Wallalong
 - (d) Medowie
 - (e) Salt Ash
 - (f) Bobs Farm
 - (g) Seaham
 - (h) Taylors Beach

Efficiency dividends

- 11. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2018-19?
- 12. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2019-20?
- 13. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2020-21?
- 14. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2021-22?
- 15. What was the total efficiency dividend that was achieved for each agency within your portfolio between 2011-12 and 2017-18 inclusively?

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

- 16. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2017-18 period?
- 17. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2017-18 period?
- 18. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?
- 19. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?

Office Administration

20. How many staff are in your ministerial office?

- (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2017-18?
- (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2018-19 based on current appointments?
- 21. How many blackberries/iPhone/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
 - (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2017-18?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
- 22. How many iPads or tablets has DPC assigned to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
 - (a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office in 2017-18?
 - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2017-18?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
- 23. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
- 24. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 25. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 26. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2017-18?
 - (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
- 27. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?

- 28. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the monthly cost of this?
- 29. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- 30. What was the total bill for your office in 2017-18 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental
 - (e) Ridesharing services
- 31. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2017-18?
 - (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

- 32. Has your department adopted "agile working environment/activity based working" practices e.g. hot-desking?
- 33. If not, are there plans to introduce activity based working practices in 2018-19?
- 34. How much has your department spent in the roll-out of the agile working environment Including laptops, furniture, lockers and other equipment?

Hospitality

- 35. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?
- 36. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?

Labour Hire Firms

- 37. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms? If yes, please advise in table form for 2017-18:
 - (a) The names of the firms utilised

- (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged
- (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

Media and Public Relations

- 38. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- 39. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
- 40. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
- 41. Have you had media training or speech training?
 - (a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid in 2017-18?

Facebook

- 42. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?
- 43. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?

Overseas Trips

- 44. Were any of your overseas trips in the last financial year paid for in part or in full by using public money?
 - (a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
- 45. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
 - (a) If so, what was the nature of these trips?
 - (b) Who paid for these trips?

Department/Agency Travel

- 46. What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine/private car hire
 - (c) Hire car rental
 - (d) Ridesharing services

Drivers

- 47. Are any of the senior executives in the relevant Department provided drivers?
 - (a) If so, can you please specify which positions are provided drivers?
 - (b) In total, how many drivers are used by senior executives in the Department?
 - (c) What is the total cost of drivers for senior executives in the Department?

Consulting

- 48. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2017-18?
 - (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- 49. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2017-18:
 - (a) Social media
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Staffing

50. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2017-18?

- (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
- (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
- 51. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
 - (a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - (b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
- 52. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- 53. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Smart Phone Accounts

- 54. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
- 55. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 on Android?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

Merchant fees

- 56. Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency.
- 57. Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions in your Department/agency.
- 58. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2017-18?

Probity Auditor

59. Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, in the past five years? If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

- 60. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) A copy of the entity's policy or web link to the entity's domestic violence leave policy;
 - (b) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;
 - (c) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors are eligible for domestic violence leave;
 - (d) Number of days of domestic violence leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of such leave;
 - (e) Number of days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
 - (f) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;
 - (g) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
 - (h) Whether or not all staff and/or contractors have access to Employee Assistance Programs?
- 61. What training has been undertaken with management and administration for those involved in approving and/or processing domestic violence leave on issues such as?
 - (a) Privacy and confidentially of information about domestic violence
 - (b) Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required
- 62. Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?
- 63. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?
- 64. What efforts have been made to ensure that perpetrators (or their accomplices) within the staffing profile are not able to access personal information of victims in order to identify their location, or other information which may assist in committing domestic violence against them,

including changing or accessing records in such a way as to disadvantage them financially or legally?

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

- 65. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) Date of introduction of sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs and a copy of such documentation.
 - (b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?
 - (c) Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?
 - (d) How long for each session, how many sessions?
 - (e) Who delivers it?
 - (f) Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?
 - i. How?
- 66. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken sexual harassment and anti- bullying training and awareness programs?
 - (a) How many complaints have been initiated in relation to:
 - i. Sexual harassment
 - ii. Bullying
 - iii. Workplace violence

Participation of women in Government

- 67. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) What number and percentage of women are employed within the agency?
 - (b) What number and percentage of women are employed within the management levels of the agency?
 - (c) What number and percentage of women are employed in the top ten leadership positions of the agency?

- (d) How is this data publicly reported on a regular basis?
- (e) What strategies does the agency use to encourage women in to management and leadership positions?
- (f) What is the gender pay gap within your agency?
- (g) Does the agency report participation of women figures to Women NSW on a regular basis?

Energy

- 68. For each agency in your portfolio by name, how much electricity did it consume for each of:
 - (a) 2014-15?
 - (b) 2015-16?
 - (c) 2016-17?
 - (d) 2017-18?
- 69. What proportion of the electricity consumed by each agency in your portfolio by name for those years came from renewable sources? Please name each source of energy (coal, solar, wind, etc.) and the proportion of the total electricity used.
- 70. How much money was spent on electricity for each agency in your portfolio by name in each of the above financial years?
- 71. What was the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio by name for those financial years?
- 72. How much electricity is it estimated that each agency in your portfolio will consume in:
 - (a) 2018-19?
 - (b) 2019-20?
 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?
- 73. What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?
- 74. For each agency in your portfolio by name, please provide the estimated proportion of energy to be used from each kind of energy (coal, gas, solar, wind etc.)?

- 75. What is the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio for each of:
 - (a) 2018-19?
 - (b) 2019-20?
 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)

Catherine Hill Bay Water Supply

- 76. Recently you decided not to issue a monopoly supplier declaration in relation to the provision of water utilities by Solo Water in Catherine Hill Bay. Residents are now paying higher than expected water bills, particularly in relation to fixed charges when compared to Hunter Water customers.
 - (a) When residents of the Beaches estate have no other option but to obtain their water supply from Solo Water, why does the Minister think it is not appropriate to make a declaration of a monopoly supplier in relation to Solo Water?
- 77. IPART recently considered an application by Solo Water to amend their licence to permit the discharge of recycled water into local water ways in Catherine Hill Bay
 - (a) When can residents of Catherine Hill Bay and the surrounding suburbs expect the Minister to respond to IPART's report?
 - (b) Does the Minister accept the advice of the EPA, that the discharge licence should not be approved in its current form?
 - (c) Does the Minister accept the advice of Lake Macquarie City Council that the discharge licence should not be approved in its current form?

Desalination plant

- 78. Does the minister guarantee that if water storage levels drop to 60% in Sydney the desalination plant will be ready and able to operate?
- 79. Given the desalination plant remained damaged and in disrepair for nearly 2 years, what steps did you take to meet, write to or communicate with the private owners of the desalination plant during this stalled re-construction?
- 80. Given the private operators of the desalination plant are paid \$188 million each year regardless of whether the desalination plant is operating or not what action can the Government take to force the operators to complete repairs or other delays to water production?
- 81. Will the minister release all relevant contractual information between the NSW Government, Sydney Water and the owners of the desalination plant so that the public can know what the details of the arrangement are?

Efficiency dividends

- 82. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2018-19?
- 83. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2019-20?
- 84. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2020-21?
- 85. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2021-22?
- 86. What was the total efficiency dividend that was achieved for each agency within your portfolio between 2011-12 and 2017-18 inclusively?

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

- 87. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2017-18 period?
- 88. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2017-18 period?
- 89. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?
- 90. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?

Office Administration

- 91. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
 - (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2017-18?
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- 92. How many blackberries/iPhone/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
 - (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2017-18?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
- 93. How many iPads or tablets has DPC assigned to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
 - (a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office in 2017-18?
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- 94. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
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 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
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 - (a) Taxi hire
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- 102. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2017-18?

(a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

- 103. Has your department adopted "agile working environment/activity based working" practices e.g. hot-desking?
 - (a) If not, are there plans to introduce activity based working practices in 2018-19?
- 104. How much has your department spent in the roll-out of the agile working environment Including laptops, furniture, lockers and other equipment?

Hospitality

- 105. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?
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- 107. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms?
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Media and Public Relations

- 109. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- 110. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

- 111. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
- 112. Have you had media training or speech training?
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Facebook

- 113. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?
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Overseas Trips

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Drivers

- 118. Are any of the senior executives in the relevant Department provided drivers?
 - (a) If so, can you please specify which positions are provided drivers?
 - (b) In total, how many drivers are used by senior executives in the Department?
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- 119. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2017-18?
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- 120. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2017-18:
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 - (b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
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 - i. And the cost of these services
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 - i. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Staffing

- 121. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2017-18?
 - (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:
 - i. Voluntary
 - ii. Forced
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- 122. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
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- 129. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2017-18?

Probity Auditor

130. Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, in the past five years? If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

- 131. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) A copy of the entity's policy or web link to the entity's domestic violence leave policy;
 - (b) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;
 - (c) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors are eligible for domestic violence leave;

- (d) Number of days of domestic violence leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of such leave;
- (e) Number of days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
- (f) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;
- (g) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
- (h) Whether or not all staff and/or contractors have access to Employee Assistance Programs?
- 132. What training has been undertaken with management and administration for those involved in approving and/or processing domestic violence leave on issues such as?
 - (a) Privacy and confidentially of information about domestic violence
 - (b) Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required
- 133. Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?
- 134. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?
- 135. What efforts have been made to ensure that perpetrators (or their accomplices) within the staffing profile are not able to access personal information of victims in order to identify their location, or other information which may assist in committing domestic violence against them, including changing or accessing records in such a way as to disadvantage them financially or legally?

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

- 136. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) Date of introduction of sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs and a copy of such documentation.
 - (b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?
 - (c) Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?
 - (d) How long for each session, how many sessions?
 - (e) Who delivers it?

- (f) Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?
 - i. How?
- 137. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken sexual harassment and anti- bullying training and awareness programs?
 - (a) How many complaints have been initiated in relation to:
 - i. Sexual harassment
 - ii. Bullying
 - iii. Workplace violence

Participation of women in Government

- 138. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) What number and percentage of women are employed within the agency?
 - (b) What number and percentage of women are employed within the management levels of the agency?
 - (c) What number and percentage of women are employed in the top ten leadership positions of the agency?
 - (d) How is this data publicly reported on a regular basis?
 - (e) What strategies does the agency use to encourage women in to management and leadership positions?
 - (f) What is the gender pay gap within your agency?
 - (g) Does the agency report participation of women figures to Women NSW on a regular basis?

Energy

- 139. For each agency in your portfolio by name, how much electricity did it consume for each of:
 - (a) 2014-15?
 - (b) 2015-16?
 - (c) 2016-17?

(d) 2017-18?

- 140. What proportion of the electricity consumed by each agency in your portfolio by name for those years came from renewable sources? Please name each source of energy (coal, solar, wind, etc.) and the proportion of the total electricity used.
- 141. How much money was spent on electricity for each agency in your portfolio by name in each of the above financial years?
- 142. What was the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio by name for those financial years?
- 143. How much electricity is it estimated that each agency in your portfolio will consume in:
 - (a) 2018-19?
 - (b) 2019-20?
 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?
- 144. What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?
- 145. For each agency in your portfolio by name, please provide the estimated proportion of energy to be used from each kind of energy (coal, gas, solar, wind etc.)?
- 146. What is the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio for each of:
 - (a) 2018-19?
 - (b) 2019-20?
 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?

Questions from Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC

Create NSW

- 147. Why has there been a sharp decrease in the Create NSW arts funding of the 222 applications submitted in the Arts and Cultural Projects category, only 6 were funded which is a 2.7% success rate?
- 148. Why are there no specific timelines published for when Create NSW grants will be open and then allocated and funded?
 - (a) When will Create NSW Grants be open, allocated and funded?
- 149. What is the overall budget for Create NSW project funding for 2018?
- 150. What is the overall budget for Create NSW project funding for 2019?
- 151. What was the Minister's input or involvement in Create NSW funding allocations this year?
 - (a) Who made the decision to severely reduce the number of projects funded this year?
- 152. Why were only 7 out of 22 applications successful in the Create NSW Round 1 Regional Arts Touring category?
- 153. What input did the Minister have into the decisions and ranking regarding the Create NSW Round 1 Regional Arts Touring category?
- 154. What input did the Minister have into the decisions and ranking regarding the Create NSW Round 1 Arts and Cultural Projects category?

Arts and Cultural Projects

- 155. Why was there a delay in publishing the results of the Dec 2017 round of Arts and Cultural Projects?
- 156. Why were the guidelines for the 2nd round of Arts and Cultural Projects not made available until after June this year which means they will not be funding this year?
- 157. What is the budget for Arts and Cultural Projects funding for 2018?
- 158. What is the budget for Arts and Cultural Projects funding for 2019?

Art Spaces

- 159. Are the number of arts and creative spaces including studios, performance spaces, music venues and the like in NSW, tracked and catalogued?
 - (a) If so, could you please provide a breakdown of the numbers?
 - (b) If not, will the Minister initiate the production and maintenance of a state-wide register of arts spaces and venues to assist artists and performers accessing suitable work spaces?
- 160. What plans are there to increase the number of arts and creative spaces in NSW?
- 161. How will the Minister ensure that the number of arts and creative spaces in NSW does not decrease?
- 162. What plans are there for the government to purchase buildings and spaces for use as arts and creative spaces?
- 163. Does the Minister support the classification of Creative as essential infrastructure in relation to the Infrastructure State Environmental Planning Policy to facilitate the provision of more arts work spaces and venues?

Peak body for Aboriginal artists in NSW

164. Is there a peak body for Aboriginal artists in NSW?

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment

- 165. How many staff currently employed by Arts NSW identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?
- 166. How many staff in total are employed by Arts NSW?
- 167. How many staff who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander are currently employed at the executive level in Arts NSW?
- 168. How many staff in total are currently employed at the executive level in Arts NSW?
- 169. What is the average remuneration for staff who do not identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?
- 170. What is the average remuneration for staff who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?
- 171. What is Arts NSW doing to meet the Council of Australian Governments agreement to a target of 2.6% indigenous employment in the public sector by 2015 as part of the National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Economic Participation?

Employment of Women

- 172. How many women are currently employed by Arts NSW?
- 173. How many staff in total are employed by Arts NSW?
- 174. How many women are currently employed at the executive level in Arts NSW?
- 175. How many staff in total are currently employed at the executive level in Arts NSW?
- 176. What is the average remuneration for male staff?
- 177. What is the average remuneration for female staff?
- 178. Does Arts NSW record gender diverse identities for their employees?
 - (a) If yes, how many staff employed by Arts NSW are gender diverse?
 - (b) If not, why not?
- 179. Does Arts NSW have any targets regarding employment and remuneration of women?
 - (a) If so, what are they and what is being done to meet them?
 - (b) If not, why not and are there any plans to introduce targets?

Employment of people with a disability

- 180. How many people with a disability are currently employed by Arts NSW?
- 181. How many people with a disability are currently employed at the executive level in Arts NSW?
- 182. What is the average remuneration for staff with a disability?
- 183. Does Arts NSW have any targets regarding employment and remuneration of people with a disability?
 - (a) If so, what are they and what is being done to meet them?
 - (b) If not, why not and are there any plans to introduce targets?

Questions from the Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC (on behalf of the NSW Labor Opposition)

Newcastle Arts

- 184. How much art funding has been spent in Newcastle for each of the following years:
 - (a) 2011;
 - (b) 2012;

- (c) 2013;
- (d) 2014;
- (e) 2015;
- (f) 2016;
- (g) 2017;
- (h) 2018?
- 185. Why is Newcastle LGA ineligible for Regional Cultural Fund?
 - (a) What funding is available for local arts projects?
- 186. Has the Minister reviewed the Newcastle Art Gallery redevelopment business case?
- 187. Will the Minister commit to funding the Newcastle Art Gallery redevelopment?

Efficiency dividends

- 188. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2018-19?
- 189. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2019-20?
- 190. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2020-21?
- 191. What is the forecast efficiency dividend saving for each agency within your portfolio in 2021-22?
- 192. What was the total efficiency dividend that was achieved for each agency within your portfolio between 2011-12 and 2017-18 inclusively?

Ministerial Travel/Meal Allowance

- 193. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister during the 2017-18 period?
- 194. How many nights' travel were claimed by the Minister's spouse during the 2017-18 period?
- 195. What was the total amount of travel allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?
- 196. What is the total amount of meal allowances claimed by the Minister and their spouse (if applicable) during 2017-18?

Office Administration

- 197. How many staff are in your ministerial office?
 - (a) What was the average salary for staff members in your office during 2017-18?

- (b) What is the estimated average salary for a ministerial staffer in your office in 2018-19 based on current appointments?
- 198. How many blackberries/iPhone/smart phones are assigned to your staff?
 - (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2017-18?
 - (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office?
 - i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?
- 199. How many iPads or tablets has DPC assigned to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?
 - (a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your Ministerial Office in 2017-18?
 - (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2017-18?
 - i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?
- 200. Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What is the cost of this?
- 201. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 202. Have any floral displays or indoor plants or pot plants been purchased for display in your ministerial office in 2017-18?
 - (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?
- 203. What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals in 2017-18?
 - (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?
 - i. Who is the subscriber for each of these?
- 204. What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the gifts purchased?
 - i. Who were they gifted to?
- 205. Do you purchase bottled water or provide water coolers for your office?
 - (a) What is the monthly cost of this?

- 206. What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle?
 - (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?
- 207. What was the total bill for your office in 2017-18 for:
 - (a) Taxi hire
 - (b) Limousine hire
 - (c) Private hire care
 - (d) Hire car rental
 - (e) Ridesharing services
- 208. Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money in 2017-18?
 - (a) If yes, will you please detail each trip, the method of transport and the cost?

Agile Workspaces/Activity Based Working/Hot-desking

- 209. Has your department adopted "agile working environment/activity based working" practices e.g. hot-desking?
 - (a) If not, are there plans to introduce activity based working practices in 2018-19?
- 210. How much has your department spent in the roll-out of the agile working environment Including laptops, furniture, lockers and other equipment?

Hospitality

- 211. How much did your ministerial office spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?
- 212. How much did your Department/agency spend on hospitality, including catering and beverages, in 2017-18?

Labour Hire Firms

- 213. Do any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilise the services of Labour Hire Firms?
- 214. If yes, please advise in table form for 2017-18:
 - (a) The names of the firms utilised
 - (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged

- (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company
- (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company
- (g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company

Media and Public Relations

- 215. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?
- 216. What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?
- 217. What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities?
- 218. Have you had media training or speech training?
 - (a) If yes, who paid for it?
 - (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid in 2017-18?

Facebook

- 219. How much did your ministerial office spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?
- 220. How much did your Department/agency spend on Facebook advertising or sponsored posts in 2017-18?

Overseas Trips

- 221. Were any of your overseas trips in the last financial year paid for in part or in full by using public money?
 - (a) If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?
- 222. Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded?
 - (a) If so, what was the nature of these trips?
 - (b) Who paid for these trips?

Department/Agency Travel

223. What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 by Departments/agencies within your portfolio on:

- (a) Taxi hire
- (b) Limousine/private car hire
- (c) Hire car rental
- (d) Ridesharing services

Drivers

- 224. Are any of the senior executives in the relevant Department provided drivers?
 - (a) If so, can you please specify which positions are provided drivers?
 - (b) In total, how many drivers are used by senior executives in the Department?
 - (c) What is the total cost of drivers for senior executives in the Department?

Consulting

- 225. How much did the Department/agencies under your portfolio responsibility spend in legal costs in 2017-18?
 - (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?
- 226. Have Department/agencies under your portfolio engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice in 2017-18:
 - (a) Social media
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (b) Photography
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (c) Acting training
 - i. And the cost of these services
 - (d) Ergonomics
 - i. And the cost of these services

Department/Agency Staffing

- 227. How many redundancies were processed by Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities during 2017-18?
 - (a) Of these redundancies, how many were:

- i. Voluntary
- ii. Forced
- (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies?
- 228. Have any staff who received a redundancy in the last two years undertaken any paid work or provided any paid services for the agency with which they were formerly employed?
 - (a) What was the nature of these works/services?
 - (b) What was the total cost of these works or services?
- 229. Are any staff formerly employed by your ministerial office now employed by Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibility?
- 230. How many staff were dismissed from Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities in 2017-18?
 - (a) What were the reason/s for each dismissal?

Smart Phone Accounts

- 231. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an iTunes account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 on iTunes?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through iTunes?
- 232. Do the Departments/agencies within your portfolio have an Android account?
 - (a) What was the total expenditure in 2017-18 on Android?
 - i. What applications/subscriptions/services were purchased through Android?

Merchant fees

- 233. Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency.
- 234. Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions in your Department/agency.
- 235. What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments in your Department/agency in 2017-18?

Probity Auditor

236. Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, in the past five years? If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.

Domestic Violence Leave Policies, Awareness and Usage

- 237. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) A copy of the entity's policy or web link to the entity's domestic violence leave policy;
 - (b) Date of introduction of domestic violence leave into enterprise agreements/contracts of employment, awards as applicable;
 - (c) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors are eligible for domestic violence leave;
 - (d) Number of days of domestic violence leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of such leave;
 - (e) Number of days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
 - (f) Number of other personal days of leave that have been taken in each financial year since the introduction of domestic violence leave;
 - (g) Number of sick days available for eligible staff to access domestic violence leave in each financial year;
 - (h) Whether or not all staff and/or contractors have access to Employee Assistance Programs?
- 238. What training has been undertaken with management and administration for those involved in approving and/or processing domestic violence leave on issues such as?
 - (a) Privacy and confidentially of information about domestic violence
 - (b) Access to emotional, psychological, financial and medical support which may be required
- 239. Who has provided training on domestic violence in the workplace?
- 240. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken domestic violence training?
- 241. What efforts have been made to ensure that perpetrators (or their accomplices) within the staffing profile are not able to access personal information of victims in order to identify their location, or other information which may assist in committing domestic violence against them,

including changing or accessing records in such a way as to disadvantage them financially or legally?

Sexual harassment and Anti-bullying training and awareness programs

- 242. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) Date of introduction of sexual harassment and anti-bullying training and awareness programs and a copy of such documentation.
 - (b) Whether or not all employees and/or contractors have received such training?
 - (c) Is this course mandatory for all employees/ contractors?
 - (d) How long for each session, how many sessions?
 - (e) Who delivers it?
 - (f) Is the program tailored to take into consideration specific needs of LGBTQIA, ATSI and CALD or other at risk groups?
 - i. How?
- 243. What percentage of staff in each agency has undertaken sexual harassment and anti- bullying training and awareness programs?
 - (a) How many complaints have been initiated in relation to:
 - i. Sexual harassment
 - ii. Bullying
 - iii. Workplace violence

Participation of women in Government

- 244. For each department, statutory agency and/or other bodies in the Minister's portfolio please report:
 - (a) What number and percentage of women are employed within the agency?
 - (b) What number and percentage of women are employed within the management levels of the agency?
 - (c) What number and percentage of women are employed in the top ten leadership positions of the agency?

- (d) How is this data publicly reported on a regular basis?
- (e) What strategies does the agency use to encourage women in to management and leadership positions?
- (f) What is the gender pay gap within your agency?
- (g) Does the agency report participation of women figures to Women NSW on a regular basis?

Energy

- 245. For each agency in your portfolio by name, how much electricity did it consume for each of:
 - (a) 2014-15?
 - (b) 2015-16?
 - (c) 2016-17?
 - (d) 2017-18?
- 246. What proportion of the electricity consumed by each agency in your portfolio by name for those years came from renewable sources? Please name each source of energy (coal, solar, wind, etc.) and the proportion of the total electricity used.
- 247. How much money was spent on electricity for each agency in your portfolio by name in each of the above financial years?
- 248. What was the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio by name for those financial years?
- 249. How much electricity is it estimated that each agency in your portfolio will consume in:
 - (a) 2018-19?
 - (b) 2019-20?
 - (c) 2020-21?
 - (d) 2021-22?
- 250. What proportion of that electricity is it estimated will come from renewable sources, for each year?
- 251. For each agency in your portfolio by name, please provide the estimated proportion of energy to be used from each kind of energy (coal, gas, solar, wind etc.)?

252. What is the name of the energy supplier to each agency in your portfolio for each of:

- (a) 2018-19?
- (b) 2019-20?
- (c) 2020-21?
- (d) 2021-22?

RESOURCES, ENERGY AND UTILITIES, ARTS

Questions from Mr Justin Field MLC

Climate change and water security

253. What modelling, if any, been done on the impacts of projected climate change on water supplies for Sydney, the Illawarra and Hunter?

Water restrictions

- 254. Please list the current water restriction level triggers based on dam storages and the conditions for each restriction level for:
 - (a) Sydney Water customers
 - (b) Hunter Water customers

Stormwater harvesting programs

- 255. What stormwater harvesting programs are currently in place in NSW?
- 256. How much has the NSW Government invested in stormwater harvesting over the last 12 months?
 - (a) How much of this was funded from the Climate Change Fund?

Water recycling

- 257. Has there been any analysis of the potential for recycled water use:
 - (a) In Sydney?
 - (b) In NSW?
- 258. What percentage of water consumed could be from recycled water:
 - (a) In Sydney?
 - (b) In NSW?
- 259. What incentives does the Government provide for recyclers to enter the water market?
- 260. In regards to the June 2017 determination from IPART in the report *Prices for wholesale water and sewerage services*' whereby recyclers' pricing structure was changed:
 - (a) Has there been an assessment on the impacts of this determination on new recycled water providers?

- (b) Will this determination have perverse incentives for new recycled water companies and new developments hoping to invest in water recycling?
- (c) Will this determination lead to increased profits to Sydney Water?
 - i. If so, by how much?
- 261. In regards to the internal review of the abovementioned June 2017 IPART determination committed to by the Minister for Utilities:
 - (a) What is the status of this review?
 - (b) Will it be made publicly available?

Sydney desalination plant

262. In regards to the trigger level for the Sydney desalination plant:

- (a) Why was the trigger level changed in the 2017 Metropolitan Water Plan from dam levels of 70% to 60%?
- (b) Did the change in trigger levels have anything to do with the inoperable status of the desalination plant at the time?
- 263. What is the cost of repair to the Sydney desalination plant to date?
- 264. When is the Sydney desalination plant expected to be in operation?
- 265. When is the Sydney desalination plant expected to be able to operate at full capacity?
- 266. What actions/penalties are available to the Government in the event the private operator is not able to meet operational requirements at trigger levels?

WaterFix residential program

- 267. In regards to the decision of the Government to stop offering the WaterFix residential program:
 - (a) Why was the program axed and refocused to strata when only 20% of people in NSW live in apartments?
 - (b) Was further public awareness campaigns considered before the decision to finish the program?
- 268. Why does the *Sydney Water 2016-17 Water Conservation Report* not provide water savings and investment figures for the WaterFix strata program for 'privacy reasons', yet it provided these figures for the WaterFix residential (see page 64 of report)?

Water leakage - Sydney Water

269. How much water has leaked from the Sydney Water pipes from:

- (a) 2015-16?
- (b) 2016-17?
- (c) 2017-18?
- 270. For the 2017/18 year, what are the leakage report response times for high and low priority leakages?
 - (a) How are high and low priority leakages defined?
 - (b) For high priority leaks, how are response priorities determined?
- 271. How much money has Sydney Water spent on maintaining and fixing leaking pipes from:
 - (a) 2015-16?
 - (b) 2016-17?
 - (c) 2017-18?

Streamwatch

- 272. Is Sydney Water withdrawing funding from the Streamwatch Program?
 - (a) If so, why?
- 273. How much funding has the Government provided Streamwatch over:
 - (a) 2016-17?
 - (b) 2017-18?
- 274. In the event such funding is withdrawn, what alternative funding sources is available from the Government to the Streamwatch program?

Underground mining - impacts on drinking water

- 275. Are you aware of increased salinity levels in Lake Burragorang as a result of mining?
 - (a) If so, what testing is being carried out on the sources of this salinity and the impacts on drinking water in the Warragamba Dam basin?
 - (b) Will this information be made publicly available?
- 276. Do you think it is appropriate for mining to occur in drinking water catchments?

Electricity prices

- 277. The NSW Council of Social Service 2017 Cost of Living survey showed that in order to pay their energy bills, 19% of children living in low-income households are going without food, and 33% of low-income households are going without medical treatment.
 - (a) How will the Government provide proactive, practical support to reduce the cost of vital energy to low-income and disadvantaged households?
- 278. The above-mentioned report also found that people in Far Western and Central Western NSW reported average annual bills nearly double the state-wide average of \$1532.
 - (a) How is the Government going to respond to the inequity in provision of this essential utility?

Questions from Mr Jeremy Buckingham MLC

Questions concerning Narrabri Underground Coal Mine (Approval 08_0144)

- 279. Is gas pre-drainage being conducted strictly in accordance with the Gas Drainage Plan (their Fig.2.10) and description included in the Narrabri Coal Mine Environmental Assessment (Section 2-56 to 2-58), and if not, by what degree do the current operations exceed the original plan?
- 280. Is the goaf gas drainage being conducted strictly in accordance with the Gas Drainage Plan and description included in the Narrabri Coal Mine Environmental Assessment (Section 2-58 to 2-59), and if not, by what degree do the current operations exceed the original plan?
- 281. Aerial surveillance identifies that both gas pre-drainage (ie 3 sets per longwall) and goaf gas drainage (ie 200m intervals along each longwall) infrastructure exceeds what was proposed in the Environmental Assessment in the Gas Drainage Plan attached. What approvals, if any, have been given by the Department of Resources and Energy for this increase in gas drainage infrastructure?
- 282. As noted in Section 2.4.5.3.1 of the Environmental Assessment, it was considered likely that once underground mining progressed beyond Longwall 2 or Longwall 3, gate road development would be sufficiently advanced ahead of longwall mining to enable conventional underground in-seam pre-drainage to be undertaken rather than the more environmentally destructive surface-to-inseam pre-drainage. Given that the mine has now advanced far beyond LW3, why is Narrabri Underground mine continuing to adopt the environmentally destructive surface-to-in-seam predrainage method?

- 283. Does this increase in gas drainage infrastructure show that the original estimates of gas emissions were inaccurate,
 - (a) In overall quantity of gas emitted?
 - (b) In the proportions of methane and carbon dioxide present?
 - (c) Are the emissions of carbon dioxide and methane being reduced to sufficiently low concentrations to ensure safe working conditions underground?

Questions on Energy & Mining

- 284. Many in the renewable energy sector are concerned that once the projects being built to fulfil the Commonwealth Renewable Energy Target are finished that we will see investment in renewable energy drop off a cliff.
 - (a) Does the government share that concern?
 - (b) Will you follow Victoria and Queensland with state-based renewable energy targets?
- 285. What is the uptake of energy storage in NSW, both at a consumer level and a utility level?
 - (a) Is the government planning any policies or programs to encourage the uptake of energy storage technology?
- 286. Electric vehicles are starting to take off in other countries. Is the government doing any modelling about the electrification of the transport sector and what that may mean for electricity demand and overall emissions?
- 287. Does your department have any forecasts for the take up of electric vehicles?
- 288. The Queensland Government has its Queensland Electric Super Highway project where 'fast chargers will be installed in convenient, safe locations close to major highways where there are existing amenities such as cafes, restaurants and shops.' They are cooperating with the ACAPMA in rolling out this project. Does NSW have a similar project? Has the government been approached by ACAPMA for such a project?
- 289. The recent COAG Energy Council meeting agreed to progress the Integrated System Plan? Does the Integrated System Plan foresee a greater penetration of renewable energy than is modelled under the National Energy Guarantee?
- 290. Does the NSW government support projects such as an interconnector between South Australia and NSW to support reliability and flexibility in the grid and allow a greater penetration of renewable energy within the National Electricity Market?

- 291. Does the NSW government support additional interconnectors with Victoria and Queensland?
- 292. Are there any ongoing negotiations over the future of the Shenhua Watermark project?
- 293. How will the proposed Port Kembla gas import terminal impact on the NSW gas market and the viability of the Narrabri coal seam gas project?
- 294. How many more years can NSW export coal before we blow our portion of the carbon budget that leads to over 2 degrees of climate change?
- 295. How many more years will NSW mine and export coal?
- 296. Is the NSW government still funding "clean coal"?
 - (a) If so how much?