

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

18 October 2012

Question: SR22

Topic: Mining in the Arthur Pieman region

Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushby asked:

1. Has the Department been approached by the Tasmanian Government, the National Tarkine Coalition or any other organisation/s in relation to possible negotiations regarding mining in the Arthur Pieman region?
2. Is the Department concerned, or has the Department provided any advice or developed any papers of any kind in relation to the potential for campaigns based on environmental issues to derail otherwise sustainable projects which comply with EPBC requirements?
3. How many mining exploration leases and licences are currently in place in the Arthur Pieman Region. Please detail:
 - a) exploration leases
 - b) exploration licences
 - c) retention licences
 - d) mining leases

(Please include company names where applicable.)

Answer:

1. No, the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism has not been approached by the Tasmanian Government, the National Tarkine Coalition or any other organisation in relation to possible negotiations regarding mining in the Arthur Pieman Conservation Area.
2. No, the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism has not provided any advice or developed any papers of any kind in relation to the potential for campaigns based on environmental issues to derail otherwise sustainable projects in the Arthur Pieman Conservation Area which comply with EPBC requirements.
3. The Tasmanian Government has regulatory authority over issuing mining licences and leases in Tasmania. The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism has no information further to that provided in response to Question SR23 on 19 October 2011. Any request for more detailed information should be directed to the Tasmanian Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources.