

Question No: 247

Question: Geological Surveying

Date: 17/11/92

Member: Mrs HICKEY

To: MINISTER for MINES and ENERGY

1. What was the number of field hours spent in geological surveying in 1990-91.
2. What is the explanation for any variation from the 12 725 hours spent on geological surveying in 1991-92.

ANSWER

I have received questions and supplementary questions relating to the numbers of hours spent in the field by NT Geological Survey staff in recent years. The wording of some of these questions was open to interpretation and this may have led to some confusion over which figures related to which years.

Allow me to clarify this situation. The number of hours spent in the field by staff of the Survey in 1990-91 was 12 725.

The figure for 1991-92 was 15 081 and obviously the 1992-93 figures will not be available until July/August next year.

The explanation for the variation between 1990-91 and 1991-92 is simple. That is, geological mapping is a cyclical activity with a number of maps in various stages of production at any given time. This necessarily varies the amount of field work required.