LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs. Finocchiaro to the Minister for Trade and Major Projects

Major Projects

- 1. In April the Government issued a media release listing 18 projects with Major Project Status. How often are these projects reviewed?
- 2. How many have come off the list and which ones are they?
- 3. Should an insolvent company in administration come off the Major Projects List?
- 4. What specific projects has the Government submitted to the NAIF Board for consideration since September 2016?
- 5. In financial year 15/16 there were 18 projects with Major Project Status. In financial year 17/18 this number is set to drop to 14. Please explain the reduction.
- 6. What projects have lost Major Project status or have since been completed?
- 7. What new Major Projects has the Government signed up since coming to Government in August 2016?
- 8. Please provide plans to attract more major projects to the Northern Territory.
- 9. If a company were to go into administration (due to solvency issues) e.g. Quintis would that be a cause for it to drop off the Major Project Status list?
- 10. At what point of the project lifecycle will a project drop off the major project list?
- 11. If construction is well underway and works are described as being over 95% complete as with INPEX, should it still be included in the major project list?
- 12. Please detail clearly and simply what additional benefit a project receives when it is granted major project status?
- 13. Is there a client satisfaction feedback framework in place for the major project status process?

ANSWERS

- Under the revised Major Project Status (MPS) Policy Framework released in 2017, projects are awarded status for a period of three years and may apply for an extension. MPS projects must meet the eligibility requirements, including feasibility and capacity, and are subject to periodical review to establish progress.
- 2. Following the most recent review, four projects which were formerly listed as both Major Project and Facilitated Investments are now listed only as Facilitated Investments. These are Ord Stage III, Shiplift and Marine Industry Park, INPEX Ichthys LNG Project and Jemena's Northern Gas Pipeline.
 - On 10 August 2018, The Quintis Sandalwood Expansion Project had its Major Project Status removed.
- Under the MPS Policy Framework, a project which enters into receivership, administration or liquidation may have its MPS revoked. A decision to revoke is made by Cabinet on a case-by-case basis.
- 4. The Northern Territory Government has identified 35 current, emerging and prospective projects to NAIF where involvement from NAIF could accelerate private sector interest and investment. For commercial-in-confidence reasons, the Territory projects currently under consideration by the Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund (NAIF) cannot be publicly disclosed
- 5. The MPS and Facilitated Investment Project lists have recently been reviewed and updated to better reflect each category. A Major Project is a private sector initiated project, whereas a Facilitated Investment Project is initiated and facilitated by the Northern Territory Government. As a result of this review, four projects which were formerly listed as both Major Project and Northern Territory Government Facilitated Investment Projects are now listed only as Facilitated Investment Projects, thereby reducing the Major Project list from 18 to 14.
- 6. See answer to question 2
 - The Shell Prelude Floating LNG project has completed construction and is into commissioning.
- 7. On 6 December 2016, the NT Government awarded MPS to the Verdant Minerals Ammaroo Phosphate Project. The project is a 1.1 billion tonne joint ore reserve resource located on Ammaroo Station, 180 km south east of Tennant Creek. The project has estimated capital expenditure of \$755 million and up to 165 ongoing jobs once operational.
- 8. The Northern Territory Government is currently working with a number of project proponents who are actively pursuing MPS.
- 9. See answer to question 3

- 10. MPS projects are governed by Project Facilitation Agreements and Project Development Agreements. These agreements outline project milestones and deliverables which are monitored and assessed. Where projects complete all required milestones, the agreement will end along with MPS.
- 11. See answer to question 10
- 12. For the project proponent, the benefits include whole-of-government support, coordination and facilitation, assistance in identifying and mapping regulatory approvals, a dedicated project case manager, and facilitation of engagement with the Australian Government through a central and single point of contact
- 13. Project proponents and the Northern Territory Government meet regularly as part of the framework around MPS and pursuant to project agreements. These formal meetings provide a forum for feedback from the proponent.