

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Purick to the Minister for Essential Services:

Water

1. *What is the depth and pumping capacity of Power and Water Corporation managed Government bores in the McMinns Borefield?*

Power and Water Corporation currently operates six production bores for public water supply in the McMinns and Howard East Borefields. The depth and pumping capacities of the existing bores are tabulated below.

Bore	Pump setting depth (m)	Pumping Capacity (l/s)
M54	40	55
M55	30	39
M62	28	60
M64	46	54
HEP1	32	27
HEP2	49	31

2. *What is the licence limit for each bore?*

Power and Water is licenced by the Department of Land Resource Management to extract water from the McMinns and Howard East Borefields under licence KD14 which identifies the following tabulated annual extraction limits on individual bores, **within a total annual extraction limit for the borefields of 8,420 million litres (ML) per year**. It is estimated that Power and Water's extraction represents less than 20% of total annual extraction from the resource.

Bore	Annual Extraction Limits for McMinns and Howard East Bores (ML)
M55	1020
M54	2150
M62	1020
M64	1550
HEP1	1300
HEP2	1380

The Department of Land Resource Management (DLRM) has a register of licences at <http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/water/permits/register>

3. *How much water was extracted from the bores for the last fiscal year by monthly breakdown?*

Monthly extraction is provided in a table at **Attachment A**. This information is reported to DLRM in accordance with licence conditions.

4. *Are there any plans to deepen the bores at McMinns? If so, what environmental research was undertaken to support such an action?*

Power and Water has no plans to deepen its bores in the McMinns and Howard East Borefields.

5. *When will the new bores at Girraween come on line and what is the depth and volume for each bore?*

Power and Water is currently delivering a project to equip and connect four **existing** boreholes in the Howard East Water Management Zone. The four bores were drilled in the 1980s as part of long term planning for Darwin's public water supply. The bores are expected to be commissioned in early 2016.

The depth and pumping capacity of the bores are tabulated below:

Bore	Pump setting depth (m)	Pumping Capacity (l/s)
HEP3	52	35
HEP4	44	35
HEP5	43	35
HEP6	41	30

6. *Does the Power and Water Corporation intend to seek an increase in the licences for the McMinns bores and if so, to what extraction level and for which bores?*

Power and Water is not seeking an increase in its annual extraction licence limit for the McMinns and Howard East Borefield.

7. *What impact any increase of the licence level would have on the Howard River East Aquifer?*

Power and Water is not seeking an increase in its annual extraction licence limit for the McMinns and Howard East Borefield.

The Department of Land Resource Management is responsible for the management and regulation of water resources in the Northern Territory. Questions regarding the performance and sustainability of water resources should be directed to that Department.

8. *What is the intended use and usage quantity of fresh water by Inpex's proposed LNG plant and operations?*

Please note customer water consumption records are confidential and PWC is not in a position to provide these records without permission from INPEX.

An extract from the INPEX Environmental Impact Statement regarding proposed water use is at **Attachment B**.

The full document is available at <http://www.ntepa.nt.gov.au/environmental-assessments/assessment/register/inpex>

9. *Could you advise what planning has been undertaken by PAWC in regards to the future demands from operators in industrial activities such as LNG plants, rare earths processing plant and related businesses?*

Power and Water liaises with other Northern Territory Government agencies to identify future planned or prospective industrial developments and their respective water demands, and incorporates these demands in its water supply modelling, which in turn informs water supply network and source planning and programming.

10. *Are all storage tanks in Darwin, Palmerston and the rural area being used currently?*

Currently all tanks are operational in the Darwin, Palmerston and Rural Areas. Nightcliff and Rapid Creek tanks are not currently being used but remain connected and part of the overall system.

11. *What is the holding capacity for the following tanks:*

a. Humpty Doo	0.5 ML
b. Howard Springs	0.50 ML
c. Palmerston	3.00 ML
d. West Lane	1.36 ML
e. Stuart Park (ground level)	36.00 ML
f. Monotoro	0.68 ML
g. Salonika	0.68 ML
h. Parap	0.68 ML
i. Winnellie	4.54 ML
j. Mararra Ground Level	36.00 ML
k. Nightcliff	0.68 ML
l. Rapid Creek	2.27 ML
m. Casuarina (ground level)	27.24 ML
n. Casuarina (elevated)	4.54 ML
o. Karama (ground level)	18.00 ML
p. Karama (elevated)	2.30 ML