

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mining Royalties

Mr Wood to Treasurer

In the *NT News* of Wednesday 06 August 2008 an article by Alison Bevage said the NT Government refuses to say how much it receives in royalties from individual mining companies, claiming that the information was exempt under the *Freedom of Information Act* as it was 'in the public interest':

1. Why is it 'in the public interest' not to tell the public what royalties are received from mining companies.
 2. If you are not willing to tell the public would you allow the Auditor-General to check to see what royalties are being paid and if they are being calculated correctly according to the *Mining Royalty Act*.
 3. When could we expect to see a report from the Auditor-General on the audit results of the extent and correctness of mining royalties paid by mining companies.
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