

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Vowles to the Minister for Land Resource Management:

Water Extraction Licenses

1. Please provide a schedule showing:
 - a) Full details of all applications for water extraction licenses for which a decision has not yet been made including the date the application was received by the Controller of Waters, and
 - b) The current status of the application and when a decision on the application is anticipated.

There are currently 70 applications awaiting decision.

These applications are summarised as follows:

- 12 applications for renewal
 - 8 recommendations to Controller being finalised
 - 4 undergoing validation checks
- 38 new applications
 - 2 awaiting draft DLRM assessment reports
 - 7 recommendations to Controller being finalised
 - 2 undergoing assessment
 - 8 undergoing validation checks
 - 19 Notice of Intention advertised
- 1 application for re-issuing
 - Undergoing validation checks
- 1 application for extended licence term
 - Recommendations to Controller being finalised
- 2 applications for adding a bore to the licence
 - Recommendations to Controller being finalised
- 7 applications for change of ownership/split of licence
 - 4 recommendations to Controller being finalised
 - 3 undergoing validation checks
- 3 applications for increased entitlement to licence
 - undergoing validation checks
- 1 application to amend bore on licence
 - undergoing validation checks
- 3 applications to amend NT portion of licence
 - undergoing validation checks
- 2 applications for trade of licence

The date range for the above applications is 17 July 2003 to 26 May 2014.

Details of anticipated decision dates are not provided as assessment of applications is ongoing, on a case-by-case basis, and the timeframes to completion are dependent on the outcomes of comprehensive modelling.

2. Please provide details of all applications for water extraction licenses in 2012/13 and 2013/14 which were not approved by the Controller of Waters and the reasons for the decision.

No applications for water extraction licenses in 2012/13 or 2013/14 have been refused to date.

3. Please provide details of all land and water management plans, property development plans and other supporting documentation for all applications for water extraction licenses approved in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

Property development plans provided by applicants as part of applications for water extraction licenses are commercial in confidence and are excluded for privacy reasons.

4. Please provide details of all communications (formal and informal) between the Department and the Minister's office with respect to all applications for water extraction licenses approved or received in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

The Department has provided all information regarding communication between the Department and Minister's office with respect to all applications for water extraction licenses through five FOI applications spanning the past 12 months, and the Opposition is in receipt of this information.

5. Please provide details of all communications (formal and informal) between the Department and applicants for water extraction licenses with respect to applications approved or received in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

The Department has provided all information regarding communication between the Department and applicants for water extraction licenses through five FOI applications spanning the past 12 months, and the Opposition is in receipt of this information.

6. Please provide details of all communications (formal and informal) between the Minister's office and applicants for water extraction licenses with respect to applications approved or received in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

This answer was provided during the Estimates Committee Hearings 2014 – refer to Hansard.

7. Please provide details of all communications (formal or informal) between the Minister's office, other Ministerial offices and Members of the Legislative Assembly with respect to applications for water extraction licenses approved or received in 2012/13 and 2013/14.

This answer was provided during the Estimates Committee Hearings 2014 – refer to Hansard.
