

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Purick to the Minister for Mining and Industry:

#### Exploration Industry in the Northern Territory

For the financial years 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/2021 please provide the following information:

1. How many ASX listed mineral exploration companies have an office and base in the Northern Territory and where is the location of the offices?

This is publically available.

2. How many people are directly employed full time in the mineral exploration industry in the Northern Territory?

There are no statistics available on employment in the mineral exploration industry in the Northern Territory.

3. How many pieces of NT legislation directly impact on the mineral exploration industry and what are the titles of the legislation?

There are nine pieces of legislation:

- *Environment Protection Act 2019*
- *Heritage Act 2011*
- *Mineral Titles Act 2010*
- *Mining Management Act 2001*
- *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989*
- *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976*
- *Waste Management and Pollution and Control Act 1998*
- *Water Act 1992*
- *Weeds Management Act 2001.*

4. How many pieces of Commonwealth legislation directly impact on the mineral exploration industry and what are the titles of the legislation?

Two pieces of Commonwealth legislation:

- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- *Native Title Act 1993.*

5. What was the mineral exploration spend for the respective years of 2019, 2020 and 2021?

2018/19: \$131.9million  
2019/20: \$123.0 million  
2020/21: \$128.3 million

6. What was the mineral exploration expenditure per square kilometer for the respective years of 2019, 2020 and 2021?

2018/19: \$98 per square kilometre  
2019/20: \$91 per square kilometre  
2020/21: \$93 per square kilometre

7. What was/is the Australian ranking of the Northern Territory in comparison to the states for mineral exploration spend for the respective years of 2019, 2020 and 2021?

2018/19: 4<sup>th</sup>  
2019/20: 5<sup>th</sup>  
2020/21: 5<sup>th</sup>

8. What was/is the Australian ranking of the Northern Territory in comparison to the states for mineral exploration per square kilometer for the years of 2019, 2020 and 2021?

Ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in each year.

9. What was the green field exploration expenditure for the years and what was the brown field expenditure for the years?

2018/19: Greenfield - \$43.3 million; Brownfield - \$82.3 million  
2019/20: Greenfield - \$41.4 million; Brownfield - \$81.8 million  
2020/21: Greenfield - \$37.7 million; Brownfield - \$90.5 million

10. Is the NT Government considering to establish a “high level” advisory group for the mining industry, the mineral exploration industry, green fields development and if so what is the purpose, who will comprise membership and what will be the terms of reference?

The Territory Government is establishing a Territory Mineral Development Taskforce. Announcements in terms of the membership and scope of the taskforce activities will be made shortly.

11. If the NT Government is considering establishing a high level advisory group, is it correct that the membership will be solely from interstate representatives?

No.