

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Purick to the Minister for Primary Industry and Resources:

**Mining Remediation Fund**

In regards to the Mining Remediation Fund, administered by the Department of Primary Industry and Resources to address the NT's legacy mine sites, could the minister provide answers for the following questions.

1. When was the Mining Remediation Fund established?
2. What is the legal standing of the fund that is, line account, trust or other legal entity?
3. If the fund is in a trust, who set up the trust and who manages the trust?
4. Are there trust members (trustees) and if so, who are they and how were they appointed and for how long?
5. Have the trust members met to discuss the programme and expenditure of monies and how many times since inception and are minutes of meetings public documents?
6. Is there a separate legacy mines unit within the department and if so, who and how many people (staff?) are involved?
7. Is there an agreed definition of exactly what is a legacy site and if so, how was it determined and by whom?
8. Separate to the trust or other legal entity managing the funds, is there an advisory board overseeing the funds and programme and if so who are the people and how were they appointed? Is there an overlap of trust members and advisory board members?

9. How much money is there in the account and do the funds attract positive interest? Does the interest gained go back into the trust fund or into general government revenue? If the latter takes place, who approved for the interest to go into general government revenue? Does industry agree or not with interest going into general government revenue if this occurs?
10. Since the inception of the legacy fund, have any funds been acquitted and if so on what project and for what work? Has an acquittal report been done for expenditure of funds and if so, are these available to the public and if no report, why not given it is industry money being expended and, as funds are in a public trust, monies must be publicly acquitted annually?
11. Are jobs for rehabilitation/remedial work put out for tender and if so, how many contracts have been awarded and to which companies/businesses?
12. How many jobs for rehabilitation/remedial works have not been put out to tender and for what work, location and site?
13. Have annual reports been written for the fund and are these available to the public and if no annual report, why not, given it is industry money that comprises the fund contribution?
14. Has an inventory been done for the legacy sites in the NT? Are these sites listed and contain details including, but not limited to location, environment and safety liabilities and required scope of works? If an inventory is developed which sites are considered high, medium and low risk and how was the risk level determined and by whom?
15. Has a strategic plan been developed for the legacy mines programme and if so, it is a public document and if there is no plan, why not?
16. How many legacy sites have monitoring equipment installed and at what cost and at which location and for what is being measured? Why are these particular indicators being measured?
17. How many legacy sites exist that are managed by private companies and leases that have not been relinquished?