

Question No: 135

Question: Glen Helen, Narwietooma and Milton Park Stations

Date: 11/08/92

Member: Mr CARTWRIGHT

To: MINISTER for LANDS and HOUSING

1. What was the valuer-General's, or other authorised valuer's, valuation of the cost to the Northern Territory government for the acquisition of the following properties -

- (a) Glen Helen Station;
- (b) Narwietooma Station; and
- (c) Milton Park Station.

2. What was the cost to the Northern Territory government for the acquisition of the following properties -

- (a) Glen Helen Station;
- (b) Narwietooma Station; and
- (c) Milton Park Station.

3. Which of these stations are to be dedicated specifically to -

- (a) conservation;
- (b) tourism; and
- (c) pastoral uses.

4. Which portions of each station is to be dedicated to mixed-use purposes and what are those purposes in each case.

5. What is the projected time for the handover of land to the Conservation Commission for park purposes.

ANSWER

1. (a) Advice from the Valuer-General in September 1991 valued the estimated 709 km² required for the West MacDonnell National Park at \$500 000. Subsequent, more detailed survey of the land indicates that the required area is 724 km²;

(b) Advice from the Valuer-General in November 1991 valued 150 km² to be acquired from Narwietooma at \$110 000; and

(c) Milton Park pastoral lease was acquired by the NTLC, not the NT government. However, advice from the Valuer-General to the Department of Lands and Housing in October 1991 valued the lease at \$1.36m.

2. (a) This property has not yet been acquired by government;

(b) \$100 000 for 134.8 km²; and

(c) The NTLC purchased the Milton Park lease in December 1991, for \$1.6m, using funds provided by the NT government.

3. None, but see answers to question 4. Naturally, however, a Territory national park will have a dual purpose in satisfying conservation and tourism uses.

4. (a) Glen Helen Station - the area to be acquired for park purposes is approximately 72 400 hectares. The balance of the lease (1442 km²) is intended to remain as a pastoral lease;

(b) Narwietooma Station - the area granted to the Conservation Land Corporation for park purposes is 13 480 hectares. No changes in usage are intended for the balance of the pastoral lease (2590 km²); and

(c) Milton Park - at the request of the NTLC, ministerial approval has been given to subdivision of this lease on the basis that 380 km² will be transferred to the Conservation Land Corporation and the balance of 740 km² to adjoining pastoral leases.

5. That portion of Glen Helen Station to be acquired will be handed over to the Conservation Land Corporation as soon as the acquisition is completed.

The acquired portion of Narwietooma was handed over to the Conservation Land Corporation. This occurred on 10 July 1992.

Surveys to enable the subdivision of Milton Park Station are currently being completed and hand-over to the Conservation Land Corporation and adjoining pastoral leases will follow.