**No. 321**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Ms Purick to Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources

**Moratorium on Licences for Sea Bed Mining and Exploration**

1. How many companies are affected by the three year moratorium for exploration and mining on the Northern Territory’s sea bed?

*A: Nine.*

2. Name the companies affected by the moratorium.

*A: Refer to attachment A (it should be noted that the moratorium relates to minerals only).*

3. List the minerals/petroleum granted titles by number and which company holds the titles.

*A: Refer to attachment A.*

4. List the minerals/petroleum application for title by number and which company holds the titles.

*A: Refer to attachment A.*

5. Provide details as to the exact location of the granted titles and applications.

*A: Refer to attachment B.*

6. In regard to granted titles, how much rent has been paid for what title by which company?

*A: Refer to attachment A.*

7. What notification was provided to affected companies and when was notification provided and by what transmission?

*A: On 8 March 2012, a letter was sent to all affected companies, advising of the moratorium; including copies of the media release and the Policy Document.*

8. In light of the moratorium and companies’ inability to progress work, will Government be wavering rental payments?

*A: Please refer to note appearing in Section 4.1 of the Policy Document (refer to attachment C).*

9. In light of the moratorium and companies’ inability to meet covenant commitments, what arrangements will be put in place to avoid any action under the legislation?

*A: As above, per Answer 8.*

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