

**Question on Notice
No. 436
Asked on 24 March 2005**

MR SPRINGBORG asked the Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr BEATTIE) –

QUESTION

With reference to the reported payment to Mrs Maddock as a consequence to her husband's passing –

- (1) As this payment involved a considerable outlay of taxpayer funds, will he advise if the payment was (a) in settlement of a contract obligation or (b) a liability in tort?
- (2) If the payment was in relation to (a), will he detail the provisions of the contract applicable and when this contract was entered into or if (b), will he detail the liability?

ANSWER

(1&2)

The settlement was a matter for the Board of Energex however, I'm informed settlement was strictly based on legal advice that took into account a number of matters, including:

- a) the deceased's contract of employment
- b) damages claims, and
- c) possible legal costs

A confidentiality agreement was signed at the request of the family as part of the conditions of the settlement. The settlement can also be reviewed by the Auditor-General in the normal course of action.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS ANSWER REPLACES THE PREVIOUS ANSWER TO NO. 436 TABLED ON 26/4/05.