

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 509

asked on Thursday, 15 March 2007

MR KNUTH ASKED THE MINISTER FOR MINES AND ENERGY (MR WILSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to any reserve, contingency or emergency funding, or funding used for one-off grants, expended by his department/s at the discretion of the minister or chief executive officer—

- (1) Will he provide for 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, details of all items of expenditure from such fund/s and or one-off grants including (a) reason for expenditure, (b) total amount, (c) the date each item of expenditure was approved and (d) the person/s responsible for approval of expenditure?
- (2) What is the uncommitted balance of these funds at present?
- (3) Why are the reserve or contingency funding or one-off grants used rather than approved grant funds?

ANSWER:

- (1&3) The Department of Mines and Energy (DME) does not hold any reserve, contingency or emergency funds, or funding for one-off grants for Administered activities.

DME received \$280,000 Capital contingency funding in the resource transfer from Department of Natural Resources and Water. To date none of this funding has been expended.

DME does not hold any reserve, contingency or emergency funds, or funding for one-off grants for Controlled non capital activities. In the former Department of Natural Resources and Mines, the Mining & Petroleum Division budget for 2006/07 did show an allocation for a Director General's reserve, however these funds have not transferred to this department under the Machinery of Government arrangements as the project funded by this reserve is to be managed by the now Department of Natural Resources and Water and the associated expenditure will be reported by that agency.

- (2) The uncommitted balance of the Capital contingency fund as at 28 February 2007 is \$280,000.