



No. 67

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, November 24, 2004

1:30 p.m.

PRAYERS

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petitions of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following Members: Toth, Elhard, Krawetz, Wall, Hermanson, Bjornerud, Morgan, Eagles, Bakken, Brkich, Weekes, Chisholm, Dearborn and Hart.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to Order, the Deputy Clerk having favourably reported on the same pursuant to Rule 14(7), the following Petitions were read and received:

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to make the necessary repairs to Highway 35 north from the United States border, in order to prevent injury or loss of life and to prevent the loss of economic opportunity in the area.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 107)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to reverse the decision to force the amalgamation of school divisions in Saskatchewan and continue re-organization of school division on a strictly voluntary basis.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 637)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to take the necessary action to ensure that the CAIS program receives adequate provincial funding, the funding formula is changed to ensure equal access to compensation, and to contribute funds to the latest BSE assistance package released by the Federal Government.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 638)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to immediately address the concerns of all individuals affected by the TransGas Asquith Natural Gas Storage Project, pay 100% of the costs involved to rectify disruptions to water supplies, produce an environment assessment study encompassing a larger area outside the scope of the project, disclose the project's long term effects on these areas and consider alternative sources of water for the project.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 640)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to take necessary action to hold an independent judicial inquiry into the Spudco scandal.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 647)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 785 to 830, they were answered. (See Appendix)

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 2:31 p.m. until Thursday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 785, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: (1) Are there any other lawsuits pending against the government directly or indirectly related to SPUDCO? (2) If so, please provide details.

Answer:

Thomas Dolman, David Dolman and Margaret Dolman v. The Government of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Water Corporation (Q.B. 1254 of 2003).

Brian Kaukinen and Harvey Fjeld v. The Honourable Maynard Sonntag & Saskatchewan Water Corporation and the Government of Saskatchewan (Q.B. 1887 of 2003).

Brian Kaukinen and Harvey Fjeld v. Carol Teichrob (Q.B. 871 of 2003)

It is not against the Government of Saskatchewan as a defendant, just Carol Teichrob personally, relating to statements made in 2003. There is not reference to Spudco in the pleadings. The Claim also reference statements alleged to have been made in 1997 when Teichrob was a Minister of the Crown, but these are not referenced in the context of Spudco. They may be connected but at this point the file doesn't indicate they were.

Regarding the second one, Fjeld v. Gov of Sask. and SaskWater and Maynard Sonntag, Saskatoon QB No. 1887 of 2003, the pleadings do not disclose that the basis of the action is related to Spudco, but it may be that the circumstances surrounding their departure from SaskWater were indirectly related to Spudco. Currently information about the action isn't specific enough to say with certainty that they are directly or indirectly connected to Spudco. They may be connected but at this point the file doesn't indicate they were.

These are included so as to be forthright although the connection to Spudco is at this point uncertain.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 786, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: (1) Is any crown, department or agency of government considering any further investment or financial support for future investment in the potato industry or related industry? (2) If so, please provide details.

Answer:

No further investments are anticipated at this time.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 787, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "Invoices should be prepared when potatoes are shipped to ensure that revenue, accounts receivable, and inventory amounts are accurately reflected." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The Ernst and Young recommendations related to the system design of internal controls were based on an assessment of the procedures used by Spudco to manage, safeguard and control its assets. The general finding of the assessment was that the design of internal controls to manage, safeguard and control Spudco's operations were consistent with SaskWater's controls and appeared adequate at December 31, 1997.

Given the unique nature of the business, Ernst and Young noted a need for additional internal controls related to invoicing, inventory management, inventory controls and appropriate allowance for spoilage.

To improve the timeliness of invoicing, SaskWater implemented an invoicing policy for the 1998-99 growing season whereby invoicing would take place upon receipt of the product by the customer rather than 60 days after which had been the previous practice.

With respect to inventory management, SaskWater developed a written documentation process for the 1998-99 season. Inventory inspection was improved with periodic inventory counts and a database information system was created to enable better tracking of product movement and to determine shrinkage/spoilage in storage.

To deal with shrinkage and spoilage, SaskWater began weighing all product on its way into storage, and adopted the industry practice for weight write-downs.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 788, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Invoices should be prepared when potatoes are shipped to ensure that revenue, accounts receivable, and inventory amounts are accurately reflected." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The recommendations contained in the Ernst and Young report were reviewed by CIC and its financial and management review of Spudco was presented to the CIC Board on July 16, 1998. This report contained 46 recommendations relating to governance, controls and monitoring, decision making process and management practices.

Upon receipt of the report, the CIC Board directed SaskWater's Board to develop a plan to rectify the concerns raised. SaskWater officials immediately created an internal operational review committee to examine the operational recommendations in the Spudco review report, to implement any internal controls or other process that were required immediately and to provide recommendations to the Finance and Audit Committee.

Crown Investments Corporation received an update on SaskWater's progress in addressing the concerns raised in the Financial and Management Audit of Spudco on October 29, 1998 and a follow-up report on February 11, 1999.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 789, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Inventory should be confirmed/counted/reconciled regularly to confirm that there are no inventory management issues such as theft or excessive shrinkage or spoilage." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The Ernst and Young recommendations related to the system design of internal controls were based on an assessment of the procedures used by Spudco to manage, safeguard and control its assets. The general finding of the assessment was that the design of internal controls to manage, safeguard and control Spudco's operations were consistent with SaskWater's controls and appeared adequate at December 31, 1997.

Given the unique nature of the business, Ernst and Young noted the need for additional internal controls related to invoicing, inventory management, inventory controls and appropriate allowance for spoilage.

To improve the timeliness of invoicing, SaskWater implemented an invoicing policy for the 1998-99 growing season whereby invoicing would take place upon receipt of the product by the customer rather than 60 days after which had been the previous practice.

With respect to inventory management, SaskWater developed a written documentation process for the 1998-99 season. Inventory inspection was improved with periodic inventory counts and a database information system was created to enable better tracking of product movement and to determine shrinkage/spoilage in storage.

To deal with shrinkage and spoilage, SaskWater began weighing all product on its way into storage, and adopted the industry practice for weight write-downs.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 790, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Inventory should be confirmed/counted/reconciled regularly to confirm that there are no inventory management issues such as theft or excessive shrinkage or spoilage." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The recommendations contained in the Ernst and Young report were reviewed by CIC and its financial and management review of Spudco was presented to the CIC Board on July 16, 1998. This report contained 46 recommendations relating to governance, controls and monitoring, decision making process and management practices.

Upon receipt of the report, the CIC Board directed SaskWater's Board to develop a plan to rectify the concerns raised. SaskWater officials immediately created an internal operational review committee to examine the operational recommendations in the Spudco review report, to implement any internal controls or other process that were required immediately and to provide recommendations to the Finance and Audit Committee.

Crown Investments Corporation received an update on SaskWater's progress in addressing the concerns raised in the Financial and Management Audit of Spudco on October 29, 1998 and a follow-up report on February 11, 1999.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 791, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Controls over inventory held in facilities operated by RAP and LDPC should be reviewed to confirm that there are no inventory management issues such as theft or excessive shrinkage or spoilage in those storage facilities." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The Ernst and Young recommendations related to the system design of internal controls were based on an assessment of the procedures used by Spudco to manage, safeguard and control its assets. The general finding of the assessment was that the design of internal controls to manage, safeguard and control Spudco's operations were consistent with SaskWater's controls and appeared adequate at December 31, 1997.

Given the unique nature of the business, Ernst and Young noted the need for additional internal controls related to invoicing, inventory management, inventory controls and appropriate allowance for spoilage.

To improve the timeliness of invoicing, SaskWater implemented an invoicing policy for the 1998-99 growing season whereby invoicing would take place upon receipt of the product by the customer rather than 60 days after which had been the previous practice.

With respect to inventory management, SaskWater developed a written documentation process for the 1998-99 season. Inventory inspection was improved with periodic inventory counts and a database information system was created to enable better tracking of product movement and to determine shrinkage/spoilage in storage.

To deal with shrinkage and spoilage, SaskWater began weighing all product on its way into storage, and adopted the industry practice for weight write downs.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 792, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Controls over inventory held in facilities operated by RAP and LDPC should be reviewed to confirm that there are no inventory management issues such as theft or excessive shrinkage or spoilage in those storage facilities." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The recommendations contained in the Ernst and Young report were reviewed by CIC and its financial and management review of Spudco was presented to the CIC Board on July 16, 1998. This report contained 46 recommendations relating to governance, controls and monitoring, decision making process and management practices.

Upon receipt of the report, the CIC Board directed SaskWater's Board to develop a plan to rectify the concerns raised. SaskWater officials immediately created an internal operational review committee to examine the operational recommendations in the Spudco review report, to implement any internal controls or other process that were required immediately and to provide recommendations to the Finance and Audit Committee.

Crown Investments Corporation received an update on SaskWater's progress in addressing the concerns raised in the Financial and Management Audit of Spudco on October 29, 1998 and a follow-up report on February 11, 1999.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 793, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Appropriate allowances for shrinkage and spoilage should be developed and incorporated into the financial statements." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The Ernst and Young recommendations related to the system design of internal controls were based on an assessment of the procedures used by Spudco to manage, safeguard and control its assets. The general finding of the assessment was that the design of internal controls to manage, safeguard and control Spudco's operations were consistent with SaskWater's controls and appeared adequate at December 31, 1997.

Given the unique nature of the business, Ernst and Young identified a need for additional internal controls related to invoicing, inventory management, inventory controls and appropriate allowance for spoilage.

To improve the timeliness of invoicing, SaskWater implemented an invoicing policy for the 1998-99 growing season whereby invoicing would take place upon receipt of the product by the customer rather than 60 days after which had been the previous practice.

With respect to inventory management, SaskWater developed a written documentation process for the 1998-99 season. Inventory inspection was improved with periodic inventory counts and a database information system was created to enable better tracking of product movement and to determine shrinkage/spoilage in storage.

To deal with shrinkage and spoilage, SaskWater began weighing all product on its way into storage, and adopted the industry practice for weight write downs.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 794, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Appropriate allowances for shrinkage and spoilage should be developed and incorporated into the financial statements." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The recommendations contained in the Ernst and Young report were reviewed by CIC and its financial and management review of Spudco was presented to the CIC Board on July 16, 1998. This report contained 46 recommendations relating to governance, controls and monitoring, decision making process and management practices.

Upon receipt of the report, the CIC Board directed SaskWater's Board to develop a plan to rectify the concerns raised. SaskWater officials immediately created an internal operational review committee to examine the operational recommendations in the SPUDCO review report, to implement any internal controls or other process that were required immediately and to provide recommendations to the Finance and Audit Committee.

Crown Investments Corporation received an update on SaskWater's progress in addressing the concerns raised in the Financial and Management Audit of Spudco on October 29, 1998 and a follow-up report on February 11, 1999.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 795, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Overall financial reporting for SPUDCO, including the Storco's, should be adjusted to provide better management information, to improve the quality of information provided to the SWC Board, and generally to better reflect the magnitude of SPUDCO's investment and risk." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

Following the Ernst and Young/CIC review of Spudco, SaskWater management established a full information structure for Spudco operations including storage companies, with actual and proforma cash flow, profit and loss statements and balance sheets. Quarterly statements, including the storage companies, with variance analysis, were prepared.

On October 5, 1998 SaskWater's Board approved a comprehensive five year business strategy for 1999-2003 including key recommendations for the future direction and operations of the Spudco division, as well as key recommendations related to SPUDCO's 1999 business plan.

As the Provincial Auditor noted in his 2000 Spring Report, by late 1998 SaskWater's Board was receiving a comprehensive risk analysis from management and management was periodically identifying and evaluating risks related to investment objectives.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 796, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Overall financial reporting for SPUDCO, including the Storco's, should be adjusted to provide better management information, to improve the quality of information provided to the SWC Board, and generally to better reflect the magnitude of SPUDCO's investment and risk." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The recommendations contained in the Ernst and Young report were reviewed by CIC and its financial and management review of Spudco was presented to the CIC Board on July 16, 1998. This report contained 46 recommendations relating to governance, controls and monitoring, decision making process and management practices.

Upon receipt of the report, the CIC Board directed SaskWater's Board to develop a plan to rectify the concerns raised. SaskWater officials immediately created an internal operational review committee to examine the operational recommendations in the Spudco review report, to implement any internal controls or other process that were required immediately and to provide recommendations to the Finance and Audit Committee.

Crown Investments Corporation received an update on SaskWater's progress in addressing the concerns raised in the Financial and Management Audit of Spudco on October 29, 1998 and a follow-up report on February 11, 1999.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 797, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Efforts should be made to have the Storco's year end financial statements completed in conjunction with SWC's audited financial statements." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The recommendations contained in the Ernst and Young report were reviewed by CIC and its financial and management review of Spudco was presented to the CIC Board on July 16, 1998. This report contained 46 recommendations relating to governance, controls and monitoring, decision making process and management practices.

Upon receipt of the report, the CIC Board directed SaskWater's Board to develop a plan to rectify the concerns raised. SaskWater officials immediately created an internal operational review committee to examine the operational recommendations in the Spudco review report, to implement any internal controls or other process that were required immediately and to provide recommendations to the Finance and Audit Committee.

Crown Investments Corporation received an update on SaskWater's progress in addressing the concerns raised in the Financial and Management Audit of Spudco on October 29, 1998 and a follow-up report on February 11, 1999.

For 1998, year end financial statements were prepared for each storco. With the adoption of consolidated accounting all financial information was fully disclosed in SaskWater's Annual Report and Financial Statements for 1998 and all subsequent years. This information included assets and liabilities, long-term receivables, commitments and contingencies and segmented information for Spudco.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 798, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Efforts should be made to have the Storco's year end financial statements completed in conjunction with SWC's audited financial statements." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The recommendations contained in the Ernst and Young report were reviewed by CIC and its financial and management review of Spudco was presented to the CIC Board on July 16, 1998. This report contained 46 recommendations relating to governance, controls and monitoring, decision making process and management practices.

Upon receipt of the report, the CIC Board directed SaskWater's Board to develop a plan to rectify the concerns raised. SaskWater officials immediately created an internal operational review committee to examine the operational recommendations in the Spudco review report, to implement any internal controls or other process that were required immediately and to provide recommendations to the Finance and Audit Committee.

For 1998, year end financial statements were prepared for each storco. With the adoption of consolidated accounting all financial information was fully disclosed in SaskWater's Annual Report and Financial Statements in 1998 and all subsequent years. This information included assets and liabilities, long-term receivables, commitments and contingencies and segmented information for Spudco.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 799, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "The SWC Board should direct Management to produce monthly or quarterly financial statements as the SWC Board requires. As well, CFI should be required to provide an acceptable level of service or SPUDCO should consider terminating the management services contract." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

The recommendations contained in the Ernst and Young report were reviewed by CIC and its financial and management review of Spudco was presented to the CIC Board on July 16, 1998. This report contained 46 recommendations relating to governance, controls and monitoring, decision making process and management practices.

Upon receipt of the report, the CIC Board directed SaskWater's Board to develop a plan to rectify the concerns raised. SaskWater officials immediately created an internal operational review committee to examine the operational recommendations in the Spudco review report, to implement any internal controls or other process that were required immediately and to provide recommendations to the Finance and Audit Committee.

Throughout the fall of 1998 SaskWater's Finance and Audit Committee worked closely with management in an effort to determine the specific reporting requirements of the Board.

With reference to the Con-Force business arrangement, negotiations with Con-Force resulted in a revised management agreement which reduced the administration fees for Con-Force and provided SaskWater greater involvement and control of the operations of the storcos. As part of SaskWater's participation in the fall 1998 financial restructuring of LDPC, SaskWater acquired the remaining 51% of Lucky Lake Storco. Plans were also approved to acquire the remaining Con-Force ownership interest in the Riverhurst and Tullis Storcos. These arrangements were concluded in 1999.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 800, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "The SWC Board should direct Management to produce monthly or quarterly financial statements as the SWC Board requires. As well, CFI should be required to provide an acceptable level of service or SPUDCO should consider terminating the management services contract." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

CIC participated in the negotiating team working to revise the management agreement with Con-Force in 1998.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 801, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "SPUDCO should prepare interim balance sheets and provide this as part of its financial reporting package to the SWC Board." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

Crown Investments Corporation monitored the progress of SaskWater in implementing the recommendations flowing from the Ernst and Young review and CIC's own management and financial review of Spudco.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 802, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "SPUDCO should prepare interim balance sheets and provide this as part of its financial reporting package to the SWC Board." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

Interim balance sheets were included as part of the full information structure implemented by SaskWater.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 803, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Discussions should be held between relevant SWC finance and administration personnel, CFI finance and administration personnel and SPUDCO personnel to determine what additional financial reporting is required." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

Discussions aimed at renegotiating the relationship with Con-Force were ongoing. To help manage the storage of the 1998 harvest, SaskWater appointed an experienced interim storage manager and seconded senior staff to provide support developing the required storage process, documentation and reporting.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 804, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Discussions should be held between relevant SWC finance and administration personnel, CFI finance and administration personnel and SPUDCO personnel to determine what additional financial reporting is required." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

CIC participated in the negotiating team working to revise the management agreement with Con-Force in 1998.

Crown Investments Corporation monitored the progress of SaskWater in implementing the recommendations flowing from the Ernst and Young review and CIC's own management and financial review of Spudco.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 805, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Inventory costs should be capitalized on a periodic basis that ensures the financial statements presented to the SWC Board are accurate. For example, if the SWC Board intends to review the SPUDCO statements monthly, inventory costs should be capitalized on a monthly basis." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

For 1998, year end financial statements were prepared for each storco. With the adoption of consolidated accounting all financial information was fully disclosed in SaskWater's Annual Report and Financial Statements in 1998 and all subsequent years. This information included assets and liabilities, long-term receivables, commitments and contingencies and segmented information for Spudco.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 806, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Inventory costs should be capitalized on a periodic basis that ensures the financial statements presented to the SWC Board are accurate. For example, if the SWC Board intends to review the SPUDCO statements monthly, inventory costs should be capitalized on a monthly basis." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

For 1998, year end financial statements were prepared for each storco. With the adoption of consolidated accounting all financial information was fully disclosed in SaskWater's Annual Report and Financial Statements in 1998 and all subsequent years. This information included assets and liabilities, long-term receivables, commitments and contingencies and segmented information for Spudco.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 807, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "In summary, we recommend that SWC consider adopting consolidation accounting to resolve the above issues to allow a full understanding of the risks SWC faces with regards to SPUDCO, including the Storco's. More discussion between SWC and Price Waterhouse and the Provincial Auditor is required before conclusive recommendations with regards to the financial accounting issues can be made." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

In consultation with CIC, Price Waterhouse Coopers and the Provincial Auditor, consolidated accounting was adopted for the year 1998.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 808, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "In summary, we recommend that SWC consider adopting consolidation accounting to resolve the above issues to allow a full understanding of the risks SWC faces with regards to SPUDCO, including the Storco's. More discussion between SWC and Price Waterhouse and the Provincial Auditor is required before conclusive recommendations with regards to the financial accounting issues can be made." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

In consultation with CIC, Price Waterhouse Coopers and the Provincial Auditor, consolidated accounting was adopted for the year 1998.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 809, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "To the extent that Storco's are considered a subsidiary from a legal perspective as well as an economic perspective, consideration should be given to whether OC's are required for transactions related to borrowing, lending, sale of assets, and leasing." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

As a result of this concern and others similar issues raised by the Provincial Auditor, CIC reviewed its policies related to subsidiaries incorporated under *The Business Corporations Act*. Policy development in this area has been ongoing for several years, and CIC recently tabled its proposed policy related to sale of assets by subsidiaries with the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 810, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "To the extent that Storco's are considered a subsidiary from a legal perspective as well as an economic perspective, consideration should be given to whether OC's are required for transactions related to borrowing, lending, sale of assets, and leasing." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

Subsequent to the CIC financial and management review, no new storcos were established for the 1998 storage construction program. SaskWater built the additional potato sheds directly.

As a result of this concern and others similar issues raised by the Provincial Auditor, CIC reviewed its policies related to subsidiaries incorporated under The Business Corporations Act. Policy development in this area has been ongoing for several years, and CIC recently tabled its proposed policy related to sale of assets by subsidiaries with the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 811, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "SWC Board and Management should work together to outline clear roles and responsibilities related to governance for SPUDCO including ways to achieve clearer, more concise communication to the SWC Board and CIC and to ensure that the SWC Board has a clear understanding of the principal risks of all aspects of the SPUDCO operations, especially Storco's." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

On October 6, 1998 SaskWater established a Governance Committee to monitor and manage the corporate governance process for its Board, including Spudco operations.

Effective February 1, 1999 a new Vice-President of Irrigation and Spudco operations was appointed.

SaskWater's efforts in this area were recognized by the Provincial Auditor's 2000 Report, where he observed that by late 1998 the Board was receiving a comprehensive risk analysis from management; that management was identifying and evaluating risk related to investment objectives periodically, and that adequate rules and procedures were in place.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 812, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "SWC Board and Management should work together to outline clear roles and responsibilities related to governance for SPUDCO including ways to achieve clearer, more concise communication to the SWC Board and CIC and to ensure that the SWC Board has a clear understanding of the principal risks of all aspects of the SPUDCO operations, especially Storco's." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

SaskWater's 1999 Business Plan and Business Strategy for 1999-2003 were approved by SaskWater's Board and by CIC through its 1999 Performance Management Process.

CIC continued to monitor SaskWater's implementation of recommended changes flowing from the June 1998 review to ensure that quarterly Spudco reports to the SaskWater Board provided greater detail and consistency, with appropriate variance analysis.

As noted in response to written question #811, SaskWater's efforts in this area were recognized by the Provincial Auditor's 2000 Report, where it is observed that by late 1998 the Board was receiving a comprehensive risk analysis from management; that management was identifying and evaluating risk related to investment objectives periodically, and that adequate rules and procedures were in place.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 813, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conduction by Ernst and Young recommended, "Given the newness of the operation and the magnitude of the investment, Management must ensure that appropriate attention is given to all SPUDCO transactions." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

In response to this recommendation SaskWater implemented a full information structure for the Spudco operations, including the storage companies, with actual and proforma cash flow, profit and loss statements and balance sheets, and quarterly statements with variance analysis. As well, in October 1998,

SaskWater's Board approved the division's 1999 business plan and its comprehensive five year business strategy.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 814, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Given the newness of the operation and the magnitude of the investment, Management must ensure that appropriate attention is given to all SPUDCO transactions." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

SaskWater's 1999 Business Plan and Business Strategy for 1999-2003 were approved by SaskWater's Board and by CIC through its 1999 Performance Management Process.

CIC continued to monitor SaskWater's implementation of recommended changes flowing from the June 1998 review to ensure that quarterly Spudco reports to the SaskWater Board provided greater detail and consistency, with appropriate variance analysis.

As noted in response to written question #811, SaskWater's efforts in this area were recognized by the Provincial Auditor's 2000 Report, where it is observed that by late 1998 the Board was receiving a comprehensive risk analysis from management; that management was identifying and evaluating risk related to investment objectives periodically, and that adequate rules and procedures were in place, given the changes that had been made.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 815, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Management should focus on providing a more integrated picture of SPUDCO including all aspects of operations." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

SaskWater's 1999 Business Plan and Business Strategy for 1999-2003 were approved by SaskWater's Board and by CIC through its 1999 Performance Management Process.

CIC continued to monitor SaskWater's implementation of recommended changes flowing from the June 1998 review to ensure that quarterly Spudco reports to the SaskWater Board provided greater detail and consistency, with appropriate variance analysis.

As noted in response to written question #811, SaskWater's efforts in this area were recognized by the Provincial Auditor in the 2000 Report, where it is observed that by late 1998 the Board was receiving a comprehensive risk analysis from management; that management was identifying and evaluating risk related to investment objectives periodically, and that adequate rules and procedures were in place.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 816, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Management should focus on providing a more integrated picture of SPUDCO including all aspects of operations." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

SaskWater's 1999 Business Plan and Business Strategy for 1999-2003 were approved by SaskWater's Board and by CIC through its 1999 Performance Management Process.

CIC continued to monitor SaskWater's implementation of recommended changes flowing from the June 1998 review to ensure that quarterly Spudco reports to the SaskWater Board provided greater detail and consistency, with appropriate variance analysis.

As noted in response to written question #812, SaskWater's efforts in this area were recognized by the Provincial Auditor's 2000 Report, where it is observed that, by late 1998 the Board was receiving a comprehensive risk analysis from management; that management was identifying and evaluating risk related to investment objectives periodically, and that adequate rules and procedures were in place.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 817, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Management should work to ensure decisions are made in a timely fashion that allows full consideration of all alternatives." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

With the advice and support of CIC, SaskWater established both strategic and operational plans with clear performance measurement benchmarks, which were subsequently presented to the Boards of SaskWater and CIC for approval. Items requiring Cabinet approval were identified during planning, and the critical path for submitting decisions to Cabinet was discussed and agreed to by CIC.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 818, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "Management should work to ensure decisions are made in a timely fashion that allows full consideration of all alternatives." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

With the advice and support of CIC, SaskWater established both strategic and operational plans with clear performance measurement benchmarks, which were subsequently presented to the Boards of SaskWater and CIC for approval. Items requiring Cabinet approval were identified during planning, and the critical path for submitting decisions to Cabinet was discussed and agreed to by CIC.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 819, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "The SWC Board should direct SPUDCO Management to develop clearly defined criteria related to the exit strategy for SPUDCO." What specific action was taken by SaskWater as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

Strategic objectives for the divestiture of Spudco activities were documented in the 1999-2003 Business Plan and approved by the SaskWater Board.

Mr. Morgan asked the Government Question No. 820, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Prebble:

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: The June 25, 1998 SPUDCO Review conducted by Ernst and Young recommended, "The SWC Board should direct SPUDCO Management to develop clearly defined criteria related to the exit strategy for SPUDCO." What specific action was taken by Crown Investments Corporation as a result of the recommendation?

Answer:

Strategic objectives for the divestiture of Spudco activities were documented in the 1999-2003 Business Plan and approved by the CIC as part of the 1999 Performance Management Process.

Mr. D'Autremont asked the Government Question No. 821, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

To the Minister of Finance: Please provide the formula or the methodology on how the Department of Finance determined how much money the Government of Saskatchewan would lose over the next three years as a result of the Smoking Ban due to be implemented in January 2005.

Answer:

Analysis is continuing but on a preliminary basis it is expected there will be a 15 to 20 per cent decline in gaming revenue in Saskatchewan (as experienced in other jurisdictions) with an expectation that there will be some recovery over time.

Mr. Brkich asked the Government Question No. 822, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:

To the Minister of Agriculture: Presently there is a deal pending between Saskatchewan Agriculture and the Federal PFRA with regards to the transfer of ownership of a provincial pasture located near Nokomis, SK, and a PFRA pasture located north of Kindersley, SK. When will the formal transfer of these pastures be completed and how will they affect local employees' status within the transfer?

Answer:

The potential transfer of these pastures is being discussed; however no final decisions have been made. Provincial government employees that could potentially be affected would be provided for in accordance with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement.

Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 823, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: During the calendar year 2001 (January 1 through December 31), what was the total value of investment authorized by the Government of Saskatchewan through Order in Council for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation or any of its subsidiaries to invest in Navigata Holdings Inc., Navigata Communications Inc., or any successor corporation of either Navigata Holdings Inc. or Navigata Communications Inc.?

Answer:

\$45 million (RSL COM Canada Holdings Inc.)

Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 824, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001, what was the net profit or net loss posted by Navigata Holdings Inc.?

Answer:

Net Loss: \$2.484 million (from May 15 to December 31). SaskTel has realized approximately \$10 million in cost savings as a result of its investment in Navigata.

Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 825, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: During the calendar year 2002 (January 1 through December 31), what was the total value of investment authorized by the Government of Saskatchewan through Order in Council for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation or any of its subsidiaries to invest in Navigata Holdings Inc., Navigata Communications Inc., or any successor corporation of either Navigata Holdings Inc. or Navigata Communications Inc.?

Answer:

None.

Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 826, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, what was the net profit or net loss posted by Navigata Holdings Inc.?

Answer:

Net Loss: \$11.005 million. SaskTel has realized approximately \$10 million in cost savings as a result of its investment in Navigata.

Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 827, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: During the calendar year 2003 (January 1 through December 31), what was the total value of investment authorized by the Government of Saskatchewan through Order in Council for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation or any of its subsidiaries to invest in Navigata Holdings Inc., Navigata Communications Inc., or any successor corporation of either Navigata Holdings Inc. or Navigata Communications Inc.?

Answer:

None.

Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 828, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, what was the net profit or net loss posted by Navigata Holdings Inc.?

Answer:

Net Loss: \$11.608 million. SaskTel has realized approximately \$10 million in cost savings as a result of its investment in Navigata.

Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 829, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: During the period from January 1, 2004 through November 15, 2004, what was the total value of investment authorized by the Government of Saskatchewan through Order in Council for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation or any of its subsidiaries to invest in Navigata Holdings Inc., Navigata Communications Inc., or any successor corporation of either Navigata Holdings Inc. or Navigata Communications Inc.?

Answer:

\$15 million.

Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 830, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: For the fiscal year period January 1, 2004 to September 30, 2004, what was the net profit or net loss posted by Navigata Holdings Inc.?

Answer:

Information will be available after the formal tabling of SaskTel's 2004 audited financial statements.

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF A BILL

On Friday:

Ms. Draude to move First Reading of Bill No. 204 – The Recognition of First Nations Women Act, 2005

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE

On Friday:

Mr. Stewart to move the following motion:

That this Assembly acknowledges the hardships that Saskatchewan producers have faced over the last few years with drought, BSE, grasshoppers and early frost, and that in order to prove its commitment to rural Saskatchewan for agricultural support, this Assembly calls upon the government to fully fund the Canadian Agricultural Support (CAIS) program for 2003, and continue to lobby the federal government for fair and equitable funding formulas for agricultural programs.

NOTICE OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

On Friday:

Mr. Iwanchuk to move the following motion:

That this Assembly commend the government for meeting its commitments to the people of Saskatchewan in a prudent, responsible and timely fashion.

NOTICE OF PRIORITY ITEMS

No. 1 (Government)

Mr. Iwanchuk to move the following motion:

That this Assembly commend the government for meeting its commitments to the people of Saskatchewan in a prudent, responsible and timely fashion.

No. 2 (Opposition)

Mr. Wall to move the following motion:

That this Assembly acknowledges that the Spudco loss constitutes the largest government business loss in the province's history, and that since this Assembly endorses transparency and accountability in all aspects of the public treasury in respect of the province's taxpayers, this Assembly demands that the government hold an independent judicial inquiry into the Spudco scandal.

(Mr. D'Autremont)
Adjourned Once

No. 3 (Opposition)

Bill No. 201 - The Whistleblower Protection Act

(Mr. Yates)
Adjourned Once

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were asked on day no. 64 and are to be answered by day no. 69:

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 834:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Corporation: (1) Has SaskTel decided to replace the FleetNet 800 service? (2) Will SaskTel be providing any grants, loans or other assistance to our rural fire departments and emergency service providers to help them pay for the new communications equipment?

Mr. Hermanson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 835:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: In 1998, (1) Did SaskWater/Spudco receive any compensation from Monsanto for any of the genetically modified New Leaf potatoes? (2) Was any of this compensation from Monsanto provided to any of the producers who grew genetically modified New Leaf potatoes? (3) What quantity of genetically modified New Leaf potatoes did each of these potato packaging and processing companies buy? (4) Were each of these potato packaging and processing companies informed by SaskWater/Spudco that they were buying genetically modified New Leaf potatoes? (5) What steps did SaskWater/Spudco take to inform consumers in Saskatchewan and other markets that they were eating genetically modified New Leaf potatoes? (6) Were any genetically modified New Leaf potatoes ever mixed with other varieties of potatoes before being shipped and sold by SaskWater/Spudco? (7) If so, which producers received this compensation and how much did each receive?

Mr. Hermanson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 836:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: In 1998, (1) What quantity of genetically modified New Leaf potatoes did SaskWater/Spudco own at the beginning of the year? (2) How much did SaskWater/Spudco pay for these genetically modified New Leaf potatoes? (3) To how many producers did SaskWater/Spudco sell genetically modified New Leaf potatoes as seed potatoes? (4) What quantity of genetically modified New Leaf potatoes did each of these producers buy? (5) How much money did SaskWater/Spudco receive from each of these producers for these genetically modified New Leaf potatoes? (6) What quantity of genetically modified New Leaf potatoes did each of these producers grow under their agreements with SaskWater/Spudco? (7) On what date did SaskWater/Spudco become aware that the genetically modified New Leaf potatoes were under review by Agriculture Canada? (8) On what date did SaskWater/Spudco make this Agriculture Canada review known to each of the producers to whom it had sold genetically modified New Leaf potatoes for seed? (9) How did SaskWater/Spudco sell or otherwise dispose of all the genetically modified New Leaf potatoes it owned in 1998? (10) What quantity of genetically modified New Leaf potatoes were sold to potato packaging and processing companies for human consumption? (11) Which potato packaging and processing companies bought genetically modified New Leaf potatoes from SaskWater/Spudco to be sold for human consumption? (12) For each shipment of genetically modified New Leaf potatoes that were sold outside Saskatchewan, was a Ministerial exemption obtained from the federal Department of Agriculture? (13) Did each of these Ministerial exemptions identify that the shipments contained genetically modified New Leaf potatoes?

Mr. Bjornerud, to ask the Government the following Question No. 837:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many orthopaedic surgeons are currently practicing in Yorkton? (2) Is the Region's Health Authority currently recruiting additional orthopaedic surgeons for the Yorkton hospital?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 838:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: What varieties of potato did Spudco purchase in 1997?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 839:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: What varieties of potato did Spudco purchase in 1998?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 840:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: What varieties of potato did Spudco purchase in 1999?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 841:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: What varieties of potato did Spudco purchase in 2000?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 842:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: What varieties of seed potatoes did Spudco sell to Saskatchewan potato producers in 1997?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 843:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: What varieties of seed potato did Spudco sell to Saskatchewan potato producers in 1998?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 844:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: What varieties of seed potato did Spudco sell to Saskatchewan potato producers in 1999?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 845:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: What varieties of seed potato did Spudco sell to Saskatchewan potato producers in 2000?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 846:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: Did Spudco mix different varieties of potato in 1997?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 847:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: Did Spudco mix different varieties of potato in 1998?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 848:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: Did Spudco mix different varieties of potato in 1999?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 849:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: Did Spudco mix different varieties of potato in 2000?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 850:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: Did Spudco store the different varieties of potato separately in 1997?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 851:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: Did Spudco store the different varieties of potato separately in 1998?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 852

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: Did Spudco store the different varieties of potato separately in 1999?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 853:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: Did Spudco store the different varieties of potato separately in 2000?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 854:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: (1) Did Spudco obtain federal ministerial exemptions to move potatoes inter-provincially in 1997? (2) For what varieties, and in what quantity? (3) If exemptions were requested for blended variety potatoes, were the make up of the blends provided, and in what quantity?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 855:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: (1) Did Spudco obtain federal ministerial exemptions to move potatoes inter-provincially in 1998? (2) If so, for what varieties, and in what quantity? (3) If exemptions were requested for blended variety potatoes, were the make up of the blends provided, and in what quantity?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 856:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: (1) Did Spudco obtain federal ministerial exemptions to move potatoes inter-provincially in 1999? (2) If so, for what varieties, and in what quantity? (3) If exemptions were requested for blended variety potatoes, were the make up of the blends provided, and in what quantity?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 857:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: (1) Did Spudco obtain federal ministerial exemptions to move potatoes inter-provincially in 2000? (2) If so, for what varieties, and in what quantity? (3) If exemptions were requested for blended variety potatoes, were the make up of the blends provided, and in what quantity?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 65 and are to be answered by day no. 70:

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 858:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: What discounts do SGI employees, executives and retirees receive on their SGI bills?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 859:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: What discounts do SaskPower employees, executives and retirees receive on their SaskPower bills?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 860:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: What discounts do SaskEnergy employees, executives and retirees receive on their SaskEnergy bills?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 861:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Transportation Corporation: What discounts do STC employees, executives and retirees receive on their STC services?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 862:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: What discounts do SLGA employees, executives and retirees receive on their SLGA purchases?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 863:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority: (1) How many wells have been affected by the Grandora/Dunfermline/Vanscoy TransGas Natural Gas Storage Project? (2) Where are these affected wells located?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 864:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: (1) Has an environmental impact study been completed on the Grandora/Dunfermline/Vanscoy TransGas Natural Gas Storage Project? (2) If so, what are the findings?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 865:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority: What scientific basis does TransGas have that the Grandora/Dunfermline/Vanscoy TransGas Natural Gas Storage Project will not affect local groundwater quality and quantity?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 866:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority: According to Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Vice President Wayne Dybvig, "Seventeen wells in the Vanscoy/Grandora area were sampled by Authority staff between November 8 and 10, 2004. These 17 wells were deemed to be at the highest risk, based on previous data." What previous data is being referenced?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 867:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: According to Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Vice President Wayne Dybvig, "Seventeen wells in the Vanscoy/Grandora area were sampled by Authority staff between November 8 and 10, 2004. These 17 wells were deemed to be at the highest risk, based on previous data." What previous data is being referenced?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 868:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: What scientific basis does TransGas have that the Grandora/Dunfermline/Vanscoy TransGas Natural Gas Storage Project will not affect local groundwater quality and quantity?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 869:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority: (1) Has an environmental impact study been completed on the Grandora/Dunfermline/Vanscoy TransGas Natural Gas Storage Project? (2) If so, what are the findings?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 870:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: (1) Were environmental impact studies done on any other TransGas Natural Gas Storage Projects completed in the province? (2) If so, what were the findings?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 871:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority: (1) Were environmental impact studies done on any other TransGas Natural Gas Storage Projects completed in the province? (2) If so, what were the findings?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 872:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: (1) How many wells have been affected by the Grandora/Dunfermline/Vanscoy TransGas Natural Gas Storage Project? (2) Where are these affected wells located?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 873:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority: Will there be public involvement prior to the re-start of the Grandora/Dunfermline/Vanscoy TransGas Natural Gas Storage Project?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 874:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: Will there be public involvement prior to the re-start of the Grandora/Dunfermline/Vanscoy TransGas Natural Gas Storage Project?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 875:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Provincial Youth Advisory Committee in the fiscal year 2000?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 876:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Provincial Youth Advisory Committee in the fiscal year 2001?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 877:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Provincial Youth Advisory Committee in the fiscal year 2002?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 878:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Provincial Youth Advisory Committee in the fiscal year 2003?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 879:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Provincial Youth Advisory Committee in the fiscal year 2004?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 880:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism in the fiscal year 2004?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 881:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism in the fiscal year 2003?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 882:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism in the fiscal year 2002?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 883:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism in the fiscal year 2001?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 884:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: How much did your department give to the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism in the fiscal year 2000?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 66 and are to be answered by day no. 71:

Mr. Wakefield, to ask the Government the following Question No. 885:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) What changes has SERM made to fisheries management policy since 1997? (2) Have any of these changes involved the devolution of authority to a co-operative or other third party?

Mr. Wakefield, to ask the Government the following Question No. 886:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) Within SERM, who is responsible for the management of fisheries resources? (2) Have any fisheries resource management functions been devolved? (3) Who is responsible for compliance in fisheries management?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 887:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: (1) What happened to the balance of the stored seed potato inventory, more specifically the Agriculture Canada inspected and certified true to variety, greenhouse produced, first generation seed potatoes by Microgro? (2) Was there any revenue from the sale of these first generation seed potatoes? (3) Where is it shown that Microgro was credited for this revenue? (4) What happened to the funds that were approved and allocated by CIC to construct a new first generation seed potato storage facility at Biggar for seed potatoes produced under a 5-year Spudco contract by Microgro?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 67 and are to be answered by day no. 72:

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 888:

To the Premier: (1) Does the government have any financial interest in A1 Soybean Enterprise Ltd.? (2) If so, what dollar amount and when was it made?

Mr. Stewart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 889:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) What is the process used for auditing purposes in the Livestock Loan Guarantee Program? (2) Are there any safeguards in place to protect participants in the program from financial malfeasance?

Mr. Stewart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 890:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) For every month since November 2003 to the present day, how many calls has the farm stress hotline received? (2) Please break down the information by month.

Mr. Bjornerud, to ask the Government the following Question No. 891:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) When land is purchased and set aside for wildlife, are adjacent landowners consulted? (2) If not, why not? (3) If yes, please explain the consultation process.

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 892:

To the Minister of Health: (1) Please indicate the patient assessment criteria for prioritizing chemotherapy and radiation treatment. (2) Are these assessment criteria the same for both cancer centres in the province?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 893:

To the Minister of Health: Please indicate the number of people currently waiting for radiation and chemotherapy, respectively, at the Allan Blair Centre.

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 894:

To the Minister of Health: Please indicate the number of people currently waiting for radiation and chemotherapy, respectively, at the Saskatoon Cancer Centre.