

2017.03.14

4.6 Connétable A.S. Crowcroft of St. Helier of the Minister for Treasury and Resources regarding whether Ports of Jersey had entered into any leases with Jersey Gas as part of the relocation of the Island's gas supply infrastructure: [1(166)]

Will the Minister advise whether Ports of Jersey have entered into leases with Jersey Gas as part of the relocation of the Island's gas supply infrastructure from the north of St. Helier to the harbour area?

Senator A.J.H. Maclean (The Minister for Treasury and Resources):

I have asked my Assistant Minister to answer this question and also question 9, because these are areas that he has delegated responsibility for.

Connétable J.M. Refault of St. Peter (Assistant Minister for Treasury and Resources - rapporteur):

Ports of Jersey Limited have advised me that on 23rd December 2016 they did enter into a 20-year lease with the Jersey Gas Company for an area of land at La Collette. This measured approximately 28,000 square feet and was referred to in the lease as site LC24. I am further advised by the Ports of Jersey that Jersey Gas are developing the land in accordance with the planning permit, P/2016/1215.

4.6.1 The Connétable of St. Helier:

Have Ports of Jersey consulted with the Department for Infrastructure, the Planning Department, or the Parish of St. Helier over the implications over this 20-year lease in the long term planning of the La Collette reclamation site?

The Connétable of St. Peter:

We do not have responsibility for the operations of Jersey Gas, and I do not know whether they have engaged with any of those authorities, but clearly I can confirm they have engaged with Planning, because there is a current permit in place with Planning.

4.6.2 Senator S.C. Ferguson:

Have the department, or the Ports of Jersey, considered the safety area? We already have a safety zone arising from Buncefield, and obviously this - Jersey Gas - there are safety implications. Have these been considered?

The Connétable of St. Peter:

I do not think it is a matter for Ports of Jersey to consider that, but certainly the site that is being proposed is on the most southern point, which is further out to sea than the current Buncefield blast area zone so, therefore, it is more contiguous with the fuel unloading bay from the fuel tanker that comes in. So, on that basis, it would already have been incorporated within the Buncefield site anyway.

4.6.3 The Connétable of St. Helier:

Well, I do not know whether this is a surprise to all Members, it certainly was a surprise to me when I found out about it. Could I ask the Assistant Minister to request the Ports of Jersey a more transparent approach to its activities, not only in St. Helier but around the Island, so that States Members know what is going on; particularly, as I say, with regard to the future of La Collette which, clearly, is a matter of great interest to the Parish and to the deputies who report to their constituents.

The Connétable of St. Peter:

I can certainly do that, but also as a fellow Connétable I know that one of the roles that we carry out in St. Peter's Parish - along with, I am sure, many other Parishes - is when planning applications come in for our Parish we look at them straightaway to see what impact they may well have on the Parish. We are proactive in that regard and I would encourage the Constable of St. Helier to do likewise. With regard to the wider implications for the ports: yes, there may well be some wider implications which have not yet been assessed. I will certainly work with the Constable of St. Helier to try and see if we can ascertain exactly what their intentions are. If one looks at the plan that is already in place it looks no more than a simple garage forecourt type delivery system that they have got proposed for that site.

Senator P.F.C. Ozouf:

Sir, you said no more supplementaries, but there were just 3?

The Bailiff:

I just asked the Connétable for the final supplementary, you put your light on earlier and then you shook your head, as I understood it you did not want to ask a question.

Senator P.F.C. Ozouf:

That is why I put my light on after you said supplementary because I did not realise you were going to cut it short.

The Bailiff:

I was not cutting it short, we have been to the final supplementary.

Senator P.F.C. Ozouf:

There were only 3 questions asked.

The Bailiff:

Nobody was showing that they wished to ask a question, Senator.