

2.5 Deputy G.P. Southern of St. Helier of the Minister for Economic Development regarding the 11 new companies in the oil, gas and mining sector in the Island and the residential status of their beneficial owners:

Will the Minister name the 11 companies in the oil, gas and mining sector he referred to in his oral answer on 29th May 2012, along with the residential status of their beneficial owners? Would he confirm his response that all but 2 of the 59 jobs created are for locally-qualified employees and state how many of these 59 jobs have been filled by local and non-local employees?

Senator A.J.H. Maclean (The Minister for Economic Development):

My department has previously sought legal advice on the public disclosure of information gathered for statutory purposes. From this, I am advised that I am not in a position to publicly name the companies or the details of their beneficial owners as the Deputy requests. However, what I can say is that most of them are either listed or subsidiaries of listed companies and, as such, their shareholders are worldwide and fluid. With respect to the second part of the question, I can confirm my previous answer that 57 of the 59 job opportunities created were for locally-qualified employees. Manpower returns are conducted twice a year. As such, we have no information as yet for companies that moved here during 2012 which were incorporated in the Deputy's question. Based on the December 2011 manpower returns, 37 of the 53 job opportunities created have been filled and only one was for a non-locally qualified position as defined under the Regulation of Undertakings and Development Law. A large proportion of the opportunities created that are not filled relate to a company that established at the very end of 2011 and, as such, we will have to wait until the June manpower returns to see how they are progressing.

2.5.1 Deputy G.P. Southern:

Can the Minister then confirm to me that most of these companies are merely headquartered here and are not gold mining in Rozel or fracking for gas in St. Ouen?

Senator A.J.H. Maclean:

I can indeed. In fact, I think I made that point at the last sitting so yes, I can confirm that.