

Note that these questions are outside the Terms of Reference of the Inquiry however the following answers are given.

*Question 1. On what date did Ms Best decide that Minister Robertson would be required to approve the declarations of the Archer, Lockhart and Stewart Basins as wild river areas ?*

**Response: In accordance with section 15 of the Wild Rivers Act, Minister Robertson decided to approve the declarations of the Archer, Lockhart and Stewart basins. At no stage did Ms Best (or any other public servant) direct or require that Minister Robertson should approve the declarations.**

*Question 2. On 1 April 2009 did Minister Stephen Robertson himself sign briefing note CTS 02637/09 or did the Minister's office sign the briefing note.*

**Response: Minister Stephen Robertson formally noted his approval of the declarations by personally signing and dating briefing note CTS 02637/09 on 1 April 2009 in accordance with section 15 of the Wild Rivers Act.**

*Question 3. On what date did Ms Best first receive CTS 02637/09 signed by Minister Stephen Robertson ?*

**Response: It is not known when Ms Best received a copy of signed CTS02637/09.**

*Question 4. Was the signed version of the briefing note CTS 02637/09 provided to Governor in Council on 2 April ?*

**Response: All necessary and relevant material was provided to allow the Governor-in-Council to approve the declarations and Gazette them.**

*Question 5. What evidence of Minister Robertson having declared the wild rivers was before Governor in Council ?*

**Response: All necessary and relevant material was provided to allow the Governor-in-Council to approve the declarations and Gazette them.**