

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 262  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Programme:** Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority  
**Topic:** Yabulu Nickel Refinery – sale from BHP  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 24 February 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Waters asked:**

- 1) It's been reported that BHP previously estimated the cost of clean up at Yabulu (as well as redundancies for its workers) to be \$1.4 billion. Was GBRMPA involved at all in the sale of the refinery in 2009?
- 2) Did you advise the Queensland government about the likely impacts on the reef if the site was not cleaned up at the time of the sale by BHP to the current owners in 2009?
- 3) Did you advise anyone (including the Federal Minister) about the rehabilitation implications of the sale from BHP?

**Answer:**

1. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's involvement in the sale was confined to advising the current and prospective owners on the requirements for transferring the Marine Park permit into a new company name.
2. No. As far as the agency was aware, the site did not require clean up at the time of the sale by BHP.
3. No. As far as the agency was aware, there weren't any rehabilitation implications at the time of the sale from BHP.