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

Question No:	65
Hearing:	Additional Estimates
Outcome:	Outcome 1
Program:	Environment Standards Division (ESD)
Topic:	Macquarie Harbour
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Question Date:	14 March 2017
Question Type:	Written

Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

It was stated at the Estimates hearing on 27 February 2017 that the Department was undertaking compliance monitoring in Macquarie Harbour.

Will you publish the results, in detail, of the compliance monitoring of the particular matters in which the referral decision was made? If no: why not?

Answer:

The Department conducts compliance monitoring inspections for the purpose of verifying compliance with EPBC Act approvals and decisions. The Department does not publish details of its compliance monitoring activities.

The Department has received an allegation that there is non-compliance with a particular manner attached to a 'not a controlled action particular manner' decision made under the EPBC Act for an expansion to marine farming in Macquarie Harbour. The Department's inquiry into these allegations is ongoing.

The Department does not release publicly details of its compliance activities as to do so can jeopardise compliance and enforcement processes.

Additionally, the Department will not release any information which could jeopardise matters before the court concerning marine farming operations in Macquarie Harbour.