

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

Question No: 67
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Environment Standards Division (ESD)
Topic: Macquarie Harbour - Compliance Monitoring
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Question Date: 14 March 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

What is the Department's prioritisation of compliance monitoring in Macquarie Harbour? When do you expect this compliance monitoring to be finished? Will you be making the results of this compliance monitoring public?

Answer:

The Department targets compliance monitoring activity on a risk basis, which is – in part – informed by allegations of non-compliance received.

The Department is currently making inquiries into the marine farming operations in Macquarie Harbour, noting that allegations of non-compliance have been received. The Department is not in a position to pre-empt when it will conclude its inquiries.

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.