

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

Question No: 64
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Environment Assessment and Compliance Division
Topic: STRADBROKE ISLAND - TEN YEARS OF ILLEGAL MINING
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 17 June 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Waters asked:

Please provide an update on your compliance work in relation to the particular allegation that the sand mining which has been happening on Stradbroke Island for ten years has taken place without an EPBC permit.

- 1) Where is that at?
- 2) Has the Dept or Minister had any exchange with the Qld Premier or any representative regarding this?
- 3) Does Sibelco have a prima facie case to answer?
- 4) How has the Department performed against its own standards for responding to and investigating complaints by members of the community in relation to this matter?

Answer:

1. The Department has sought a range of information from the mine operators and other key stakeholders. That information is currently under review. Compliance inquiries are still underway and a final decision is yet to be made.
2. No
3. The Department does not comment on the details of on-going cases.
4. The Department has responded to this matter in accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* Compliance and Enforcement Policy.