

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

**Question No:** 107  
**Hearing:** Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Program:** Environment Standards Division (ESD)  
**Topic:** Department meetings with proponent - Toondah Harbour  
**Hansard Page:** 101 and 102  
**Question Date:** 22 May 2017  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Waters asked:**

Senator WATERS: If you can provide as much of the first advice on the first referral as you can, that would be deeply appreciated. Can I also ask what meetings the department has had with the proponents in relation to the withdrawal of the original referral?

Mr Barker: There has been a number of discussions with the proponent prior to the re-referral, if you like, of the new project. I would have to take on notice details of dates and the like. It is very frequent for the department to have quite regular engagements with the proponents as they refer projects and then move through the regulatory steps.

Senator WATERS: If you could take on notice the dates of those meetings or communications about the withdrawal, that would be great.

**Answer:**

The Department had the following meetings with the proponent in relation to the withdrawal of its 2015 referral:

1. a teleconference on 18 April 2017 in which the proponent indicated that it intended to withdraw the 2015 referral and substitute a new referral; and
2. a meeting with the proponent on 26 April 2017 to discuss the content of a proposed new referral.