

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

Question No: 158
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 4
Programme: Science
Topic: CSG BORE WELL INTEGRITY
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Waters asked:

I refer to two responses to Questions on Notice I asked re CSG bore well integrity – QoN61 from February this year and QoN63 from the May estimates:

The Department has stated it had commissioned “two bore integrity related projects”. When I asked for further information about these, in May, the response only related to one report, by SKM. What is the other report and when it will be made public?

Answer:

The Office of Water Science commissioned two bore integrity projects on the advice of the IESC:

1. Background Review on bore construction, integrity, monitoring, reporting, decommissioning and legacy issues in Australia; the project broadly considered water supply bores, CSG wells, coal and mineral exploration boreholes, and petroleum wells; a report from this project has been published.
2. Knowledge Project on monitoring and management of bore integrity, for which two milestone reports were produced. A detailed literature review on bore integrity monitoring and management, with a focus on water bores and CSG wells, and a methodology to assess and quantify bore integrity failure rate. These reports were produced to inform further stages of the project. On the basis of these reports the Department is now considering the need, feasibility and potential scope of future work.