

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

**Question No:** 92  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Environment Assessment and Compliance Division  
**Topic:** AQUIS GREAT BARRIER REEF RESORT  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

Is the Department aware of any environmental concerns relating to the proposal? If so, I request copies of all briefings and correspondence.

- a. What documents
- b. Who raised them
- c. What date
- d. What was the nature of the concerns
- e. What processes are in place for consultation and to address these concerns

**Answer:**

The five comments received on the referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) were taken into account at the time the project was determined a controlled action under the EPBC Act for potential impacts on:

- Listed threatened species and communities (s18 & s18A);
- Listed migratory species (s20 & s20A);
- The heritage values of a National Heritage place (s15B & s15C);
- The world heritage values of a declared World Heritage property (s12 & s15A); and
- The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (s24B & s24C).

The Aquis project is being assessed by the Queensland Coordinator-General under an accredited process under the EPBC Act. Submissions on the draft Environmental Impact Statement are addressed in the *Aquis Resort Environmental Impact Statement: Community Submissions and Issues, October 2014* found at:

<http://eisdocs.dsdip.qld.gov.au/Aquis%20Resort%20at%20the%20Great%20Barrier%20Reef/AEIS/community-submissions-and-issues-7Oct14.pdf>

The themes of submissions (not exclusively environmental concerns) are summarised in Chapter 2 of that report.

Comments from relevant Ministers, agencies and the public are invited and taken into account as part of the EPBC Act environmental impact assessment and approval process.