Question on Notice No. 7 Asked on 22 February 2022

Mr P Weir asked Premier and Minister for the Olympics (Hon. A Palaszczuk)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the Office of Ground Water Impact Assessment report indicating the need for rehabilitation due to the predicted subsidence in Arrow tenements located on prime agricultural land in the Darling Downs region—

Will the Premier advise (a) will the government conduct a Regional Impact Assessment, (b) will Arrow be responsible for the rehabilitation costs until the tenement is surrendered and (c) what potential financial costs will be borne by the state if subsidence continues over an extended period of time?

ANSWER:

- (a) The independent Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment has already undertaken a comprehensive assessment of impacts in cultivated areas in the consultation draft of the Surat Underground Water Impact Report which was released in October 2021.
- (b) Arrow is responsible for rehabilitation associated with activities undertaken under its tenements and is liable to compensate landholders for any impacts.
- (c) If there is an impact on a landholder's business arising from subsidence caused by a resource activity, compensation is payable by the resource authority holder.

Where ongoing management actions are required after the surrender of an environmental authority the environmental authority holder is required to pay a residual risk payment to cover costs associated with this work, prior to surrender.