

**Question on Notice
No. 412
Asked on 24 March 2005**

QUESTION:

MS C SULLIVAN asked the Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women (Ms Boyle)—

With reference to the Federal Government's surprise decision to allow the proposed CSR Donnybrook sandmine—

What ramifications will it have on the environment as a whole?

ANSWER:

The Federal Government approved the CSR-Readymix sand extraction site at Donnybrook in February 2005. The Queensland Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considered the development in August 2004 with the key potential issues being:

- management of Acid Sulfate Soils;
- the release of sediment from a floodway upon exposure to saline waters;
- discharge of contaminants via groundwater to Bullock Creek and Pumicestone Passage; and
- impact on adjacent wetlands.

The State and Federal Governments had separate, but overlapping roles for this range of environmental issues. Provided the operation is carried out in accordance with the conditions of both the Queensland EPA and the Federal Department of the Environment and Heritage, impacts on the environment should be minimised apart from the physical disturbance associated with the extraction.