

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 780

asked on Thursday, 24 May 2007

MR HOPPER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER AND MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER IN NORTH QUEENSLAND (MR WALLACE)—

QUESTION:

Will he guarantee that the Border Rivers Resources Operations Plan will not be introduced for the unregulated Weir River unless it is based on sufficient and soundly based scientific data to ensure that all existing licence holders receive a fair and accurate allocation?

ANSWER:

The Border Rivers draft Resource Operations Plan was released for public comment on 8 January 2007. The submission period closed on 28 February 2007, and 72 properly made submissions were received. My Department is currently evaluating all of these submissions and I anticipate that the Resource Operations Plan will be finalised by September 2007.

The conversion of water harvesting entitlements across the whole Border Rivers plan area, including the Weir River, will consider the views expressed in the submissions received and be based on the best hydrological data available.