

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1917

asked on Wednesday, 25 November 2009

MR RICKUSS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY AND MINISTER FOR TRADE (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the \$2.2b expenditure on the water recycling plant and infrastructure and the government sale of about 20 megalitres a day to power stations—

Is the remainder of the waste water being purified and placed back into the bay or is it being placed back into the bay in a raw form?

ANSWER:

The Western Corridor Recycled Water Project's three advanced water treatment plants take treated water from six Brisbane and Ipswich wastewater treatment plants.

So as to not waste energy and resources, only the amount of treated water needed to meet production targets, operational and commissioning requirements is taken from these wastewater treatment plants.

Treated water not taken from the wastewater treatment plants is discharged from these plants into the Brisbane and Bremer Rivers in the usual manner and is required to meet strict environmental standards. This water is treated to a "tertiary" standard appropriate for discharge to receiving waters.

The key waste water treatment plants of South East Queensland were the subject of a major upgrade program in the last decade.