

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1073

asked on Friday, 17 June 2011

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MR ELMES ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (MS JONES)—

### QUESTION:

What plans have been put in place to properly supervise the flow of contaminant from the Kin Kin quarry site into the environmentally sensitive Noosa River catchment, if the operators are permitted to commence excavation from the base of the range, delaying rehabilitation until the entire face has been denuded of vegetation?

### ANSWER:

While this question was asked of Minister Jones, due to recent changes in Ministerial responsibility, I am now the Minister responsible for this matter and therefore provide this response.

As with all waterways, the government takes the protection of the Noosa River very seriously.

On 11 March 2011, the Department of Environment and Resource Management issued Nielsen's Quality Gravel Pty Ltd (the operator of Kin Kin quarry) an Environmental Protection Order (the Order) to ensure that the necessary erosion and sediment controls were put in place.

To comply with the Order, a detailed works program and revised site environmental plans were required. Significant actions have already been completed on-site, including increasing the size of the main sedimentation dam, creating clean stormwater diversions around the working area, and designing a new secondary treatment pond system.

The Order requires that the operator ensures that any stormwater being released from the site meets specific water quality criteria. The progress of the works and future stormwater releases will continue to be monitored by the department and further enforcement action will be taken where it is determined necessary to protect the lower catchment and the Noosa River.