

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 255

asked on Tuesday, 1 April 2014

MR KNUTH ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINES (MR CRIPPS)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the April 2012 court ruling that Department of Environment and Resource Management staff misallocated water quantities in the Upper Barron River Catchment areas, and the severe losses of income landholders experienced as a result—

Will the Minister advise of the outcomes of his referral of the departmental staff to the CMC?

ANSWER:

The CMC wrote to the Department of Natural Resources and Mines on 26 April 2012, stating that, as this matter was about administrative processes and decisions, it was not a matter for that agency.

The matter was then referred to the Ombudsman for investigation. The Department of Natural Resources and Mines has been cooperating with information requests from the Ombudsman.

The Ombudsman has not yet released a report on this investigation.