

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 510

asked on Thursday, 4 June 2015

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**MR WEIR** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINES (DR LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the timeframe for a decision to be made on the New Acland Coal Mine Project Stage 3 approval, given that the project secured approval from the Independent Coordinator-General in 2014?

ANSWER:

This government made a commitment to scrutinise the approval processes for the New Acland mine and the impacts of this mine on local communities. This review is currently being completed.

The public notification period for the mining lease applications related to the proposed expansion of the New Acland mine closed on 1 July 2015.

The next step in the process is for the Land Court of Queensland to hear objections lodged during the public notification period. There is no statutory timeframe for this process.

When the Land Court completes its hearings, it will make recommendations to me as the Minister responsible for mining in Queensland, for consideration during decision making.

The approval of an environmental impact statement by the Coordinator-General is not an approval to begin construction of a proposed project. Additional approvals are also required before development at the mine can commence:

- Commonwealth Department of Environment for a 'controlled action';
- Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection for an amendment to New Acland's environmental authority; and
- Queensland Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning for a regional interests development approval.