

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 365

asked on Thursday, 22 March 2018

MR C BOYCE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY (HON DR A LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

Does the Minister support the concept of Carbon Capture and Storage as proposed in Wandoan which would see up to 75ml of Liquid CO₂ pumped into the Great Artesian Basin with unknown impacts on water quality and pressure?

ANSWER:

I am advised that the Carbon Transport and Storage Company has submitted a proposal to the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy for a pilot carbon capture and storage project. The company—a non-profit subsidiary company of Glencore Australia—was established to demonstrate the technical viability and safe operation of carbon capture and storage.

The proposal is to store liquid carbon dioxide in the Precipice Aquifer of the Great Artesian Basin, near Wandoan in the Surat Basin.

The department is currently assessing the proposal and, as such, it would be inappropriate to comment further at this time.

Nevertheless, I can assure the member that, as with any application, a robust assessment will be undertaken. The public interest including the safety of the community and the integrity of the environment are key considerations in such an assessment.