

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1004

asked on Thursday, 2 September 2021

MR M HART ASKED THE MINISTER FOR RESOURCES (HON S STEWART)—

QUESTION:

With reference to legacy wells that have been or need to be plugged at the former Linc Energy site at Hopeland—

Will the Minister advise the (a) number of wells that have been plugged, (b) cost to plug those wells, (c) number of wells that still need to be plugged and (d) cost to plug the remaining wells referred to in (c)?

ANSWER:

- (a) Eight wells at the former Linc Energy site have been plugged.
- (b) The cost to plug these eight wells was \$2,451,895. It should be noted these are among the most complex of the wells to be decommissioned at the site and, therefore, cost significantly more to decommission.
- (c) A total of 172 wells have been identified for decommissioning and 44 of those present unacceptable environmental and safety risks and are, therefore, the highest priority for decommissioning.
- (d) As part of the 2021–22 Budget, the Queensland Government has allocated \$16.8 million over two years to continue to address the management and mitigation of significant public safety, health and environmental risks at high-risk abandoned mine sites across Queensland. Decommissioning activities at the Linc Energy site are funded from this allocation.