

Question on Notice

No. 930

Asked on Tuesday, 31 August 2021

MR M HART ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the former Linc Energy UCG site at Hopeland—

Will the Minister advise what, if any, adverse environmental issues the government has identified from the installed groundwater monitoring bores since their installation?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The groundwater monitoring bores were installed by the Department of Environment and Science in 2018 and in 2020, as part of our ongoing efforts to manage the environmental impacts on the former Linc Energy site. Benzene and other contaminants of concern, such as metals, have repeatedly been detected in the majority of the bores. In many cases, those detections have exceeded the national livestock drinking water and ecosystem guidelines. The bores are located both on and within a short distance of the former Linc Energy site.

The department undertakes regular monitoring to ensure the impacts of the detected contaminants are appropriately managed. The department continues to engage with the local community in relation to the monitoring.