Question on Notice

No. 243

Asked on Friday, 14 March 2025

MR N DAMETTO asked the Minister for Primary Industries (HON A PERRETT)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the Exceptional Disaster Assistance Recovery Grants available through QRIDA to assist directly impacted primary producers, small businesses, and non-profit organisations with the costs of clean-up and reinstatement following the North and Far North Tropical Low 2025—

Will the Minister outline what representations have been made to the federal government to revise the eligibility criteria so that primary producers with off-farm income and small businesses suffering loss of trade are not excluded from this critical funding?

ANSWER:

I thank the member for the question and interest in the matter.

On 16 February 2025 I wrote to Senator the Honourable Jenny McAllister, Minister for Emergency Management and Minister for Cities requesting an update on the status of the proposed definition of 'primary producer'. I highlighted the Crisafulli Government's desire to ensure that a revised definition is fit-for-purpose and delivers the best outcome possible for disaster-impacted primary producers not only in Queensland, but throughout the nation. This includes those many producers who receive off-farm income.

I am yet to receive a response from Senator McAllister.

The member may be interested to know that following the change of government responsibility for the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994* and QRIDA was transferred to the Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development.