

Question on Notice

No. 191

Asked on Wednesday, 4 March 2026

MR M BERKMAN ASKED MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION (HON A POWELL)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the salt and brine waste produced during Coal Seam Gas extraction activities—

Will the Minister advise (a) if the department is aware of CSG salt and brine being stored in abandoned coal and other mines in Queensland (b) if yes (i) provide a list of specific sites being used for this storage, (ii) for each site, advise the period of storage, the quantities being stored, at what depths it is being stored, and under what barrier conditions and (c) if no, will the department investigate credible reports of this practice and its appropriateness?

ANSWER:

- (a) The Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation has advised that it is not aware of any storage of salt and brine wastes from coal seam gas activities in abandoned coal and other mines in Queensland.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Yes.

It is important to note that the storage of salt and brine wastes, produced water from coal seam gas extraction activities, is managed through conditions of an environmental authority under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* and the relevant End of Waste Code/s under the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*.