

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Question Number:** 4-21

**Output Number:** Whole of Government

**Date:** 8/12/2020

**From:** Mrs Jo Hersey

**To:** Hon Eva Lawler

**Portfolio:** Environment

**Agency:** Environment, Parks & Water Security

**Subject:** Average timeframe for environmental approval plan

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### QUESTION:

What was the average time for an environmental approval plan for the financial year 2019-20?

### ANSWER:

It is assumed that this question refers to Environmental Approvals issued under the new *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

There were no environmental approvals issued in 2019-20 under this legislation because it commenced on 28 June 2020.

Eight Environment Management Plan (EMP) approvals were issued under the Petroleum (Environment) Regulations in 2019-20. Of these four were issued by the Minister in the statutory timeframe of 90 days. One was outside the 90 day timeframe because it required an Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) clearance and approval was issued within 14 days of the AAPA clearance being obtained. For a further two, notice was provided to the interest holder of extension of timeframe and were issued within 101 and 103 days of receipt of the EMP, and one related to a historical EMP received by previous regulator prior to transfer of responsibilities.