

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Higgins to the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources:

Water Licenses

1. Please advise how many parties have been sent letters from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources warning that they have not utilised their current water allocation under a license and risk having that allocation decreased?
2. In reference to question 1 above, what are the identities of those parties and where are they located geographically?
3. What is the intended purpose of these letters and does the Department of Environment and Natural Resources intend to take action under the *Water Act* to vary water licenses for any party in the short-term?
4. Has the Department of Environment and Natural Resources taken any action to amend, modify or revoke a water licence in the past 12 months?
5. If the answer to question 4 is yes, has any application for review been lodged and, if so, what is the status or outcome of that/those review(s)?
6. How many applications for a grant of a license to take ground water under section 60 of the *Water Act* are currently pending, and what is the status of those applications and which aquifers would they potentially impact?

7. What is the status of the consultation process being undertaken in relation to the Strategic Aboriginal Water Reserves policy framework?
8. What is the timeline for any amendments to the *Water Act* in line with the Strategic Aboriginal Water Reserves policy framework?