

Estimates Committee 2010 Questions Taken On Notice

(11/06/2010 to 18/06/2010)

Date: 17/06/2010

Output:

Sub Output:

Subject: 100-year flood

From: Mr Peter Chandler to Mr Karl Hampton
Natural Resources Environment and Heritage

8-9

Question:

Perhaps the question should be: if there are any lessons learnt at the next meeting from what happened with this 100-year flood, can we have some feedback?

Answer:

Answered On: 17/06/2010

Answer:

Flood warning is undertaken in priority regions where there are clear and present threats to life and or infrastructure. The rivers which flooded in the Barkly region during 2009-10 are not currently included in the flood warning network as they are generally more benign, i.e. flow velocities and rates of rise, and consequently are not considered to pose significant threats to life and of infrastructure.

Where requested the department also provides a flood warning service to the Department of Construction and Infrastructure to facilitate more immediate advice regarding potential road closures.

At teh next Flood warning Working Group planning meeting, the issue of Barkly is likely to be raised by the Department Construction and Infrastructure in relation to designing roads with immunity levels and drainage capacities to cater for climate change impacts.

Flood warning is undertaken in the Katherine Daly, Victoria, Adelaide and Todd River catchments, all of which have a much greater population density and can be subject to severe and relatively sudden flood events.