

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Vowles to the Minister for Land Resource Management:

Environment Centre NT Inc v Minister for Land Resource Management Legal Fees

- (a) Including legal fees, court costs and other costs consequential to the Supreme Court's decision in *The Environment Centre Northern Territory (NT) Incorporated v The Minister for Land Resource Management*, what is the total itemised cost arising from your failure to conduct a merits based review of decisions by the Controller of Water Resources (the Controller) to grant certain water extraction licenses?
 - (b) Why didn't you conduct a merits based review of the Controller's decisions to award the water extraction licenses mentioned in the Supreme Court's Judgement?
 - (c) Will you accept responsibility for the costs incurred to taxpayers by your failure to conduct a merits based review of the Controller's decisions with respect to the water extraction licenses mentioned in the Supreme Court's judgement?
 - (d) What steps and procedures have you put in place to ensure that any future reviews of the Controller's decisions to award water extraction licenses are conducted on their merits consistent with the Supreme Court's decision?
 - (e) How many other applications have you received to review decisions of the Controller to grant water extraction licenses?
 - (f) What are the details of each water extraction license relevant to (e) above and when did you receive each review application?
 - (g) What decision did you make with respect to each of the review applications mentioned in (e) above?
 - (h) Did you undertake a merits based review of each decision of the Controller relevant to (e) above and if not:
 - (i) Which licenses were not subject to a merits bases review?
 - (ii) And in each case, why didn't you conduct a merits base review?
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