

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (COST RECOVERY) REGULATIONS 2021 — FEES

916. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the answer provided yesterday that advised that the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation had halted issuing invoices for conducting part IV environmental assessments “in response to the unprecedented number of environmental assessments needed to facilitate the state’s booming economic growth and the staffing challenges faced across the public and private sectors”.

- (1) How many environmental assessments are being, or are due to be, actioned by the department?
- (2) Please list the individual project proposals against which the environmental assessments are being, or are due to be, conducted.
- (3) Regarding (2), how long in calendar days has each relevant proposal been under assessment?
- (4) How many staff, including FTE departmental officers and contractors, are allocated to conduct these environmental assessments?
- (5) How long will it take to clear the backlog?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

The member will note that it was a long question requiring lots of information in the answer. As a result, the answer is that the production of this information will divert staff resources from their usual work and it is not possible to provide the information requested in the time frame. I request that the member place this question on notice.