

LAND CLEARING, BINNU

410. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries:

The people in the Binnu area were to be given notification about a month ago of the land-clearing arrangements that were put in place there. On my understanding, no notification has been received yet. Will the minister tell us whether they will receive a reply on that matter?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I am unaware of any undertaking given to individuals or to that group, other than that the functions of what has become known as the Binnu accord will be followed through. Some participants in the Binnu accord have adhered to the arrangements that they agreed to at the beginning of the accord; others have clearly breached the conditions they agreed to. As a result of the varying scale of the alleged offences by each party to the Binnu accord and the variable degree of compliance with the conditions of the accord, it will be necessary for the department to deal with each accord party as individuals on a case-by-case basis, which includes the consideration of prosecution.