

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 161
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 4
Programme: Science
Topic: CSG BORE WELL INTEGRITY
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Waters asked:

The SKM report was only on CSG bore well integrity – yet with shale and tight gas activities getting ever more attention, how applicable are their findings to these industries, and has the Department considered getting on the front foot and doing on-ground thorough research re the risks of these industries to groundwater before you are under pressure to rapidly approve projects in these risky industries?

Answer:

The findings of the bore integrity report may be applicable to shale and tight gas activities. With respect to bore integrity management, the distinctions between different areas of the petroleum and gas industry appear to be relatively minor compared to the much larger distinctions between the petroleum/gas industry and water supply.