

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

Question No: 166
Hearing: Supplementary Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Programme: Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Topic: Ethanol Mandate
Hansard Page: 45-46
Question Date: 19 October 2015
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Waters asked:

1. Given that that might see an increase in sugarcane production, has there been any input of GBRMPA into that bill as regards either the pesticide and fertiliser application or even land clearing, the impacts associated with that expanded industry, that could affect the reef?
2. What role have you played in the development of those laws?
3. How are you engaging in that particular issue?

Answer:

1. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority has not, to date, provided comment on the Queensland Government's introduction of the *Liquid Fuel Supply (Ethanol and Other Biofuels Mandate) Amendment Bill 2015* to parliament.
2. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority has not been involved in the development of this Queensland Law.
3. Any expansion of the cane industry adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef would require Australian and Queensland Government environmental approvals. Approvals for the expansion of any industry that has the potential to negatively impact on Great Barrier Reef water quality will be expected to demonstrate how they are assisting Australian and Queensland Governments in meeting their Reef 2050 Long Term Sustainability Plan water quality targets.