



14 January 2009

IMPORTANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION IN REGARD TO DEFORMITIES IN FISH STOCKS IN THE NOOSA RIVER

Towards the end of 2008 I was contacted by Ms Gwen Gilson who was concerned about possible chemical contamination in the Noosa River, particularly around her fish hatchery.

To assist Ms Gilson I wrote to the Minister for Primary Industries & Fisheries, Tim Mulherrin, on 3 November (see attached letter) and received his reply on 2 December 2008 which outlined the State Government's response at that time (see attached letter).

With this in mind, I must say that I found it extraordinary that the Deputy Premier on Tuesday 13 January announced a 'Government probe' into the two-headed fish larvae when in fact, his own Government has *'been investigating the fish deaths and the alleged pesticide spray drift issues over the past two years'*. My representation to the Minister on 3 November 2008 on behalf of Ms Gilson was a further reminder to the Minister that the issue remains unresolved.

I asked the Minister that I be advised of the outcome of the tests so that I could pass these results on to Miss Gilson but as yet, they have not been provided. I have written again to the Minister and asked to be advised of the findings of the investigation.

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