

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 831

Asked on 14 June 2018

MR D LAST asked the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

With reference to reports of primary producers having their electricity use estimated due to misunderstood Biosecurity Queensland signage and concerns about meter reading staff not complying with Biosecurity requirements, resulting in overcharging and increased risk of the spread of disease—

Will the Minister advise what steps have been taken to (a) correct confusing signage and (b) ensure contractors (e.g. meter readers) perform their job while ensuring Biosecurity in our farming sector?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

On-farm biosecurity is an important issue for our industries and I applaud those groups and individuals who are taking efforts to improve their level of protection from pest and disease. Farming enterprises often elect to place a biosecurity sign on their front entrances as part of an industry quality assurance system. These signs are not Biosecurity Queensland signs and are not a legislated requirement unless a property is subject to specific movement controls under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

As the issue of estimated electricity bills refers to situations where meter readers, who I understand are often contractors to electricity providers, are unable to undertake a meter reading, that part of the question should be referred to my colleague, the Honourable Dr Anthony Lynham MP, the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.