

ALCOA — MENTAL HEALTH

1099. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to advice, from the Minister for Commerce in his letter to me dated 28 July 2015 that the matter of alleged bullying, harassment and intimidation at Alcoa's refinery in Pinjarra falls not with Worksafe but within the responsibilities of the Department of Mines and Petroleum and that the Minister for Mines and Petroleum would respond to my letter drawing attention to this matter on behalf of the 495 people who signed a petition requesting government action.

- (1) What will the minister do to address these issues?
- (2) When does he intend to reply to my letter?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, I advise —

- (1)–(2) Resources safety mining inspectors followed up on the statements made by Hon Sally Talbot on 17 June 2015.

The company advised that they had implemented programs this year that include a mental health leadership course and a workforce mental health course. As at 10 July 2015, 164 staff had completed the leadership course and 1 170 workers were confirmed to attend the workforce course. The company also has well documented systems for managing bullying and harassment in place and provides an employee assistance program. The department will continue to monitor this issue with the company as part of ongoing inspections and discussions with site safety and health representatives.