

Procedural Fairness and Justice – Department of Natural Resources and Environment
Accreditation

Mr GARLAND question to MINISTER for PRIMARY INDUSTRIES and WATER

This question is from Matthew of Shakespeare Hills Eggs. After applying for accreditation in 2021, my family repeatedly sought assistance from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE) over the next 34 months, including 13 follow-up emails without receiving any substantive response. Biosecurity Tasmania operations then raided my property and imposed a prohibition order and commenced a major investigation. Yet once the department finally engaged, accreditation was achieved within seven weeks. Given the importance of procedural fairness and natural justice, can the minister explain how one part of NRE can fail to engage with my family business for almost three years, while another part pursues enforcement action over the very problem that departmental inaction may have helped create?