



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Addressed to: Mr Ray Hezkial, Managing Director, Icon Water

Hearing: 14 November 2025

In relation to: Artificial grass affecting access to underground utilities on nature strips

Question received: 24 November 2025

Answer Due: 1 December 2025

Mr Andrew Braddock MLA: I note the Gold Coast Council policy is that artificial grass may not be used on nature strips as it may "obstructs underground infrastructure that may need to be accessed by a utility company or service provider." Is this an issue for Icon Water or Evoenergy in the ACT?

Mr Ray Hezkial: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Icon Water

Icon Water does not have a policy that prohibits artificial grass on nature strips. While it can present some inconvenience during maintenance, it is not treated as a network interference issue.

If encountered, the grass is typically rolled back to allow access to assets and then restored upon completion of works.

Evoenergy

Artificial grass on nature strips has not significantly impacted Evoenergy's ability to respond to faults or emergencies. While circumstances involving artificial grass are low, when work is required, crews typically roll back the artificial grass, complete the excavation, and then reinstate the area.

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Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Administration

Signature: 

Date: 1/12/25

By Ray Hezkial, Managing Director, Icon Water