

Reference:
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Senate Economics Legislation Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT



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Dear Senate Committee Members

Re: Australian Renewable Energy Agency (Repeal) Bill 2014

The Lord Howe Island Board provides electricity to the residents and businesses of Lord Howe Island as well as to the 16,000 visitors to the Island each year.

To date the Board has been reliant on diesel power generation, which is a costly exercise as all diesel fuel has to be brought in on the small freight ship, which comes to the Island on a fortnightly basis. The Board has been pursuing renewable energy alternatives for the Island, which is a World Heritage site. Renewable energy options will provide greater certainty in power supply for the Island and are more sustainable.

The Australian Renewable Energy Agency has been of great assistance to the Lord Howe Island Board in supporting the move to a hybrid renewable energy system for a very remote and off-grid location. Without ARENA, the introduction of a renewable energy system to Lord Howe Island will not be possible.

The Lord Howe Island Board therefore supports the continuation of ARENA as an essential mechanism and service in encouraging and enabling the development of sustainable renewable energy in remote parts of Australia.

Yours sincerely

Penny Holloway
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER