

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 45

**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates

**Outcome:** Outcome 5

**Programme:** Environment Assessment and Compliance Division

**Topic:** Coal Seam Gas Advice

**Hansard Page:** 10

**Question Date:** 18 November 2013

**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Waters asked:**

Senator WATERS: I am not sure if this is the right spot to ask, but I am interested in recent statements by the Prime Minister in which he apparently indicated to certain landholders in Queensland that he would like them to have the right to say no to coal seam gas. The government voted against that very same statement in the Senate last week. I am interested in whether the Prime Minister's office or department has asked your department for advice about the necessary regulatory changes or for a briefing around the possibility of whether landholders should be given the right to say no to coal seam gas.

Dr de Brouwer: I might just take that one on notice. I am not aware of any such advice, but we will take that on notice and come back.

Senator WATERS: Can you come back today?

Dr de Brouwer: I will try.

**Answer:**

The Department of the Environment has not received a request from the current Prime Minister's office or department for advice or briefing on giving landholders the right to say no to coal seam gas developments.