

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

**Question No:** 50

**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates

**Outcome:** Outcome 5

**Programme:** Environment Assessment and Compliance Division

**Topic:** Coal Seam Gas Advice from BoM

**Hansard Page:** 41

**Question Date:** 18 November 2013

**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Waters asked:**

Senator WATERS: I have just a few brief questions. Firstly, has the department ever asked the bureau for expert advice on specific major projects, particularly on proposed coal seam gas projects and whether there is any increased bushfire risk from these projects?

Dr de Brouwer: That is a question to the department. I am not aware of that, but we will come back.

Senator WATERS: Can you speak up? I cannot hear with other people talking.

Dr de Brouwer: I am not aware that we asked the Bureau of Meteorology for advice around coal seam or coal or mining projects. I will come back, but I am not aware of any requests to the bureau on that matter.

**Answer:**

The Department has not asked the Bureau of Meteorology for expert advice on any major projects, including coal seam gas projects, nor asked whether there is any increased bushfire risk from these projects.