

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

Question No: 64

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: 7

Programme: Renewables Projections and Governance Division

Topic: Abatement under the Direct Action Plan

Hansard Page: N/A

Question Date: 27 November 2013

Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

Is the Department involved in projecting the abatement to be delivered under the direct action policy? Will the assumptions about the cost of abatement differ from the work the Department has already done in relation to the impact of carbon pricing? What steps are being taken to account for the potential crediting of activities, which would have gone ahead without funding?

Answer:

The Australian Government releases official projections of its greenhouse gas emissions, which are developed on the basis of policies and measures in place.

The Government intends to model the predicted level of abatement from the Direct Action Plan, including the Emissions Reduction Fund, once design and implementation are finalised.

The Emissions Reduction Fund will encourage emissions reductions that make a real and additional contribution to reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions. The Government is considering a range of policy options to ensure that funding is provided to those projects that generate emissions reductions that would otherwise not occur. The policy options associated with the Emissions Reduction Fund are currently the subject of consultation with businesses and the community.