

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

Question No: 83

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Outcome 7

Programme: Emissions Reduction Fund Taskforce

Topic: Baselines

Hansard Page: N/A

Question Date: 27 November 2013

Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

How long did it take to develop baselines for the 50 or so emissions-intensive trade-exposed activities? Is it easier or hard to develop baselines for the rest of the businesses in Australia? What would be the relevant metric, such as tonnes of product, for a business like a shopping centre or car repair shop? How long would it take to develop baselines for all major businesses in Australia?

Answer:

How long did it take to develop baselines for the 50 or so emissions-intensive trade-exposed activities?

Baselines for emissions-intensive trade-exposed activities were developed continuously since 2009. These baselines were developed for the purpose of facilitating the allocation of free permits under the Carbon Pricing Mechanism and partial exemption certificates under the Renewable Energy Target. The nature of those baselines and the process followed to develop them was specifically tailored to those objectives.

Is it easier or hard to develop baselines for the rest of the businesses in Australia?

What would be the relevant metric, such as tonnes of product, for a business like a shopping centre or car repair shop?

How long would it take to develop baselines for all major businesses in Australia?

The Government has released a Green Paper seeking business and community views on all design elements of the Emissions Reduction Fund.

The Government intends to announce the final design of the Emissions Reduction Fund in the White Paper in early 2014. This will include issues related to baselines.