Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Topic: Forest Maps

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Question: (Senator Milne)

Senator MILNE—...In terms of the national carbon accounting system, I have been asking for the maps for some six months now and have been promised them by the government and I am still waiting. Can you indicate when I can expect to get the maps of the Kyoto forests for each year since 1990—that is what I have been asking for—in any of the GIS formats that are available?

Senator Wong—Senator, I thought I had indicated in the Senate—

Senator MILNE—That you would provide them.

Senator Wong—Yes.

Senator MILNE—That is right.

Senator Wong—And I gave you an indication of what needed to be done first. I do not know that I can add to what I said in the Senate.

Senator MILNE—I again ask for those maps. If the whole national carbon accounting system is based on being able to find the Kyoto forests then I would like to be able to see where they are and what changes have occurred.

Answer:

On 18 March 2010, the Government tabled mapping of Kyoto forest cover that meets the Senate request for "a map of Australian forest cover using the Kyoto definition of 'forest' for each year since 1990, at the highest available resolution, in any widely used GIS format".