



**Parliament of Australia**  
**Parliamentary Budget Office**

**Phil Bowen PSM FCPA**  
**Parliamentary Budget Officer**

Senator Christine Milne  
Leader of the Australian Greens  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Milne

Please find attached a response to your costing request *connecting clean energy* (letter of 14 August 2013).

The response to this request will be released on the PBO website ([www.aph.gov.au/pbo](http://www.aph.gov.au/pbo)).

If you have any queries about this costing, please do not hesitate to contact Colin Brown on (02) 6277 9530.

Yours sincerely

Phil Bowen

16 August 2013

## COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

<b>Name of proposal to be costed:</b>	<b>Connecting Clean Energy</b>
Summary of proposal:	The intention of the proposal is to increase investment in renewable energy. This will involve the establishment of a Connecting Clean Energy Task Group that will assist in the process of connecting clean energy hotspots.  The proposal will have effect from 1 July 2014.
Person/party requesting costing:	Senator Christine Milne, Australian Greens
Date costing request received:	14 August 2013
Date costing completed:	16 August 2013
Date of public release of policy:	13 July 2013
Agencies from which information was obtained:	Not applicable

### Costing overview

This proposal is expected to decrease both the underlying cash balance and fiscal balance by \$2 billion over the 2013-14 Budget forward estimates period. This impact reflects an increase in expenses over this period. Any unspent funding is to be held over to 2017-18, the last year of the Connecting Clean Energy Task Group.

Departmental costs are expected to be minimal and, consistent with the costing request, are to be accommodated from within the capped funding amounts.

This costing is considered to be of high reliability as it is based on a capped funding amount specified in the costing request.

**Table 1: Financial implications (outturn prices)<sup>(a)</sup>**

Impact on	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Underlying cash balance (\$m)	-	-500	-750	-750
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-	-500	-750	-750

(a) A negative number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in expenses in accrual terms. A negative number for the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in expenses in cash terms.

## **POLICY COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD**

### **Key assumptions**

The expense profile is as specified in the costing request.

### **Methodology**

The estimates are based on the capped funding amount specified in the costing request.