



Parliament of Australia
Parliamentary Budget Office

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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, *Clean Air Act* (letter of 30 August 2013).

The response to this request will be released on the PBO website (<http://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

/ September 2013



COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

Name of proposal to be costed:	Clean Air Act
Summary of proposal:	<p>The proposal is to introduce a <i>Clean Air Act</i> which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• establish national standards and regulations for air quality, starting with better regulation of particulates from coal mines and coal-fired power stations• drive the installation of an air quality monitoring network capable of providing real-time data on pollution sources• require coal trains that pass through population centres to be covered• require a setback from new coal mines to keep homes at a safe distance• require health impact assessments for new mining developments• introduce emissions standards for non-road engines that mirror the current US EPA standards, and• introduce an emissions standard of 1g per kg of burnt fuel and 65 per cent efficiency for all new woodheaters manufactured in or imported to Australia. <p>The proposal would have effect from 1 July 2014.</p>
Person/party requesting costing:	Senator Christine Milne, Australian Greens Party
Date costing request received:	30 August 2013
Date costing completed:	1 September 2013
Date of public release of policy	24 August 2013

Costing overview

This proposal is not expected to affect either the underlying cash balance or fiscal balance over the 2013-14 Budget forward estimates.

As per the costing request, the PBO has not included any additional departmental funding for drafting the new legislation, as the cost for such activities would be minimal and could be met from within the current departmental estimates for the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC). The costing does not include any funding associated with regulating or enforcing the proposed legislative changes as this has not been specified in the costing request.

POLICY COSTING – ELECTION CARETAKER PERIOD

This costing is considered to be of high reliability as the relevant tasks associated with this proposal are considered to be core departmental functions of SEWPaC.

Table 1: Financial implications (outturn prices)^(a)

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