

**ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES 2022-23 – 28 OCTOBER, 7 NOVEMBER and 28 NOVEMBER 2022**

**CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER PORTFOLIO**

<b>QoN No.</b>	<b>Portfolio QoN No.</b>	<b>Department /Agency</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Transcript Page</b>
1	SQ22-000168	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Energy Ministers Meeting date	Senator HUGHES: So you can't tell me whether he's responsible for setting the date. If Mr Bowen is responsible, which I assume is the response-that would have been a yes-when did he set the date for the Energy Ministers' Meeting that's currently occurring?	7
2	SQ22-000169	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Energy Ministers Meeting and Senate Estimates dates	<p>Senator HUGHES: Two and a half days in total for group A estimates and outrageously just one of those days happened to be the only one all the ministers could get together. This question comes in a few parts, so you might want to take a couple of notes. Was the minister or the minister's office advised by the department that the Energy Ministers' Meeting clashed with Senate estimates? If this was the case, when was this advice provided to the minister's office? Please table that advice for the committee. Did the department provide the minister or the minister's office with an alternative date for the Energy Ministers' Meeting, and what date was that? Was the alternative date tested with other jurisdictions?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I'll that on notice and see what I can do.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: If you could come back today with those questions that would be great.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I'll take it on notice.</p>	7-8
3	SQ22-000564	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Environment budget comparison	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I have some overall budget questions for the department. Firstly, Mr Fredericks, do you have a simple answer-you may not-as to why there is a difference in the headline figure of this budget of \$1.8 billion for Environment in comparison to the last government's March budget of \$2.3 billion?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I don't have a simple answer to that question.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Okay. Can you give us any answer to that question? Can you explain that?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I'll take that on notice.</p>	11

4	SQ22-000565	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Forward estimates	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: So that we can save time, I would like to put some questions on notice. Perhaps we can come back to it when we get back. I know we won't be in corporate when we get back in a week's time, but I would appreciate it if you could have the questions returned by then so that I can help prosecute this and be very clear about it. I'd like to know how much money is being spent in the forward estimates, if you can work that out for me. It is a bit confusing when you read the minister's press release.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: We'll take that on notice.</p>	12
5	SQ22-000567	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Political documents on APS websites	<p>Senator HUGHES: These are very corporate questions around the department in particular. The department's website, energy.gov.au, includes Labor's Powering Australia plan. Is it appropriate that the department's website has that document on it?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I'll have to have a look at that for you.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: I can send you the document. I've got the link here if you'd like it.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I'll have a look at that. At the end of the day, of course, we're responsible for the implementation of the government's Powering Australia plan.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: Are you aware of any other APS websites that share political parties' election documents?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: As I say, I can't answer that question.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: If you could maybe check with your fellow secretaries-</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: But I will check that and take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: how many other APS websites carry political parties' election material. Are you aware, though, that the Powering Australia document actually references Scott Morrison twice as often as it references renewables, and do you think that that's appropriate?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I'm just not aware of that issue.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: You might want to have a look at that for me.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: Yes.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: And, on that, you might want to find out if the department sought any advice from PM&amp;C or the Department of Finance about whether it was appropriate to post that document. Did the minister or the minister's office ask the department either verbally or in writing to post the Powering Australia plan, and, if so, when was the request made and who made the request, and can you please table any correspondence between the minister or the minister's office and the department on this matter?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I'll take that on notice for you.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: That's also to the minister, because I'd like to know if the</p>	13-14

				<p>minister's office was directly engaged in putting the Powering Australia plan-Labor's political document-on an APS website.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: Yes, I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: Since you're having to take these on notice, I would-similar to Senator Hanson- Young-appreciate these answers being given either by the end of the day or, certainly, before Monday week so that we can continue to address this.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: Senator, I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: Yes. So we'd like to know who in the department made the decision to put that document on the website. Perhaps you can answer this-if the department stands by the modelling that's presented in that document. Since it's been presented on an APS website as government policy, as the department's position, do you stand by the modelling that is presented in that document?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: For me, there are two separate issues there. One is that I do accept that I need to have a look at the proposition you're making about the policy that's on the website. I will have a look at that.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: Well, it's not a policy. It's a political platform.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I understand that. That's an important issue. We'll have a look at that. I'll come back to you on notice about that. In terms of the modelling itself, the fact of the matter is that that was point-in-time modelling. It was done in 2021 and it was about a range of election policies.</p>	
6	SQ22-000568	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Ross Cadell	<p>Workplace harassment/bullying claims</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Mr Fredericks, on workplace health and safety-becoming highly focused-are you aware, or is anyone from your department aware, of how many workplace harassment or bullying claims your department is dealing with at the moment?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I am not aware of that. I will ask Ms McCulloch to deal with that one.</p> <p>Ms McCulloch: I have some high-level figures for you, but, as you'll appreciate, these sorts of cases are confidential, and we do not provide them.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Yes.</p> <p>Ms McCulloch: I might have to take it on notice. Off the top of my head, my understanding is that we have about 20-odd complaints, but they're not all sexual harassment claims.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: No, it is workplace bullying and harassment generally. That's fine. Could you also take on notice what the financial impact or the allocation of funds in your budget to deal with those matters would be.</p> <p>Ms McCulloch: To-</p>	15

					<p>Senator CADELL: To deal with those matters, if there are payouts and things like that-if there's a contingent liability being set.</p> <p>Ms McCulloch: Okay, I'll take that on notice.</p>	
7	SQ22-000569	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Machinery of government changes costs	<p>Senator DUNIAM: Secretary, in your opening statement you referenced the machinery of government changes that were finalised on the 28th of last month. Could you outline the cost of those changes to that date?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I'll take that on notice. The reason for that is it isn't easy. It's quite complex to understand the costs. That's a work in progress for us. The reality is, at the moment, we're doing everything we can to efficiently and effectively affect the machinery of government changes. I'm happy to take that on notice and see what we can come back to you with.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Just it be clear though, in your opening statement you said it's finalised.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: What I said in the opening statement is what's been finalised is the legal transfer of our staff, so all the other various departments, and we now have in place all of the relevant necessary governance mechanisms that we need to have in place to have a properly established department of state. We have more to do. But I'm happy to take on notice the capacity to tell you what the sort of in train costs have been to date.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: If you're able, without too much trouble-you can sort of break it down into the elements of what that MOG change involves. I presume that includes rebranding et cetera of the department-</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: We'll do our best to define-I want to clear, though, it's not an easy task.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: No, indeed.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: Rebranding is probably one of the easier elements to identify the cost. There are a range of departments that have had to rebrand over the last five or 10 years, so I'm not too worried about that.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: And things like accommodation-all of that. Whatever you can, on notice, would be excellent. On that, though, the money in Budget Paper No. 2, page 58, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, additional resourcing, does that cover the cost of the-</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: No. To be clear, that's additional funding that the new department has received from government in order to fund our corporate areas.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: That's fine. As stated, those pieces of information on notice</p>	16
8	SQ22-000570	Department of Climate Change,	Jonathon Duniam	Incoming government briefing - BoM	<p>Senator DUNIAM: That's fine. As stated, those pieces of information on notice. On the issue of incoming government briefings, does the department take responsibility for all agencies and the department itself within the portfolio in</p>	16

		Energy, the Environment and Water			<p>their incoming government briefings? For example, is the BoM done separately?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: No. Incoming government briefs tend to be done separately. There are occasions where smaller agencies might be incorporated into a department, but it's very much a department incoming government brief and agencies do their own incoming briefing processes.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Can you confirm for me though that the BoM was done separately to the department?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I would want to take that on notice or you could ask it when we get to that. The only reason I'm pausing is I wasn't the secretary for BoM at the time of the last election.</p>	
9	SQ22-000878	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Applications to destroy koala habitat	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Are we going to see a halt to the destruction of koala habitat?</p> <p>Dr Fraser: There is a focus on habitat protection and habitat conservation through the recovery plan and that will be the focus of the recovery team and the measures we're implementing in complementing what the states are doing as well. Separate to that is regulatory control of actions.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: How many applications are currently on the minister's desk to destroy koala habitat</p> <p>Dr Fraser: I can't answer that. You'll have to ask my colleagues in our environmental approvals division.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Somebody must have the answer to that question.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: We can get that information for you.</p>	22
10	SQ22-000571	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Janet Rice	Leadbeater's possum - timeline for research	<p>Senator RICE: Under that research that's been identified that you've got funding for, what's the expected time line for that research to be done?</p> <p>Ms Kennedy: Dr Keissling might be able to help with that.</p> <p>Dr Keissling: The research that we've been talking about here is still in development. As my colleague Ms Kennedy has identified, we are working with the National Environmental Science Program to secure funding for that program, and we would look forward to and invite Victorian government involvement in the research.</p> <p>Senator RICE: What's the expected time line though for that research to be undertaken? The point I'm getting to is: meanwhile, the logging continues. Meanwhile, Leadbeater's possum habitat is being logged, which is not consistent with minimising the chance of extinction.</p> <p>Ms Kennedy: I understand the point, Senator. The funding identified is out of the urgent and emerging issues under the NESP funding. We'd expect that the research would start quickly. We will be able to take on notice the exact timeframe. I'm not sure how long it needs to-</p>	28

11	SQ22-000572	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Marine invasive species	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: I'd like to ask a follow-up question. Do you include marine invasive species in your remit, and can invasive species also be native under your definitions, like <i>Centrostephanus</i>, the long-spined sea urchin, for example?</p> <p>Dr McEwen: Overabundant noisy miners, for example, is a key threatening process; that's where a native species is considered a threat. I must admit I need to take the question around marine species on notice. I don't have any in my list in front of me, but I assume that, particularly, inshore invasives could well fall into that category.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: If you could. Thanks.</p>	31
12	SQ22-000573	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Proposed redevelopment of Toondah Harbour by Walker Corporation	<p>Senator WATERS: Great. My first line of questioning is about the Toondah Harbour proposed redevelopment by Walker Corporation. As I'm sure the department is aware, this would be a megaresidential development on the shores of a RAMSAR wetland that could potentially impact 33,000 migratory shorebirds, clear critical habitat for those eastern curlews, affect koala habitat and possibly have half a million cubic metres of dredging in a RAMSAR site. I imagine those were some of the reasons why the department advised the previous minister to reject the proposal as clearly unacceptable. The previous minister did not do so but, rather, sent it through the approval pathway for assessment. My first question is whether or not the department has briefed the new minister on the history of this project, particularly the political history of this project, including the \$200,000 donation made to the Liberal Party by Walker Corporation shortly before the project was overruled by the former minister and found not to be clearly unacceptable but to be appropriate for further assessment?</p> <p>Mr McNee: We have advised the minister's office about the status of the current referral. We've been in contact with the officer about where that's at, particularly that it was moving towards publication and public comment.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Okay. But my question was whether you've given the minister a briefing about the history of the proposal.</p> <p>Mr McNee: No, Senator.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Has the minister asked for such a briefing?</p> <p>Mr McNee: I think the minister's been clear in public statements that she's expecting to receive the department's advice once the process for public comment is finalised.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Have you provided any advice to the new minister about options to reconsider that determination of 'clearly unacceptable'?</p> <p>Mr McNee: No, Senator.</p>	31

					<p>Senator WATERS: Are there any? Is it possible to go back to that stage of the process now that you're further down the track?</p> <p>Mr McNee: The act provides for reconsideration in particular circumstances, and it sets out that people can make an application for reconsideration based around new information. It might relate to significant impacts. We currently don't have one of those in relation to Toondah Harbour.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Is there any ability for the department, or, rather, for the minister, to go back to that stage of the process and now deem the project to be clearly unacceptable?</p> <p>Mr McNee: Certainly there is a mechanism in relation to reconsideration for that to occur. But, as I said, we don't have a proposal for reconsideration.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Where would that initiate from?</p> <p>Mr McNee: It could be initiated from either the public or another party. It's possible that the minister could also form that on the basis of new information. I think it might be useful to take the particular details of that on notice.</p>	
13	SQ22-000574	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Daintree Microgrid Project - date of last meeting and use of green hydrogen	<p>Senator WATERS: ...</p> <p>There are a couple of other development issues in Queensland. The budget allocates \$18 million for the Daintree Microgrid Project to establish a renewable microgrid incorporating hydrogen in the Daintree community. What's the current status of that project?</p> <p>Mr McNee: My understanding is that there is no current referral for that project.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Are you in preliminary discussions?</p> <p>Mr McNee: We've certainly had discussions with the proponent in an early sense around which we consider pre-referral discussions. But we haven't formally received a referral.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: How far advanced are the pre-referral discussions?</p> <p>Mr McNee: We've had several meetings with the proponent to better understand the nature of the proposal and its intersection with matters of national environmental significance.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: What was the date of the last meeting, please?</p> <p>Mr McNee: I'll have to get back to you because I don't have that detail with me.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. Are you anticipating that a referral will be required?</p> <p>Mr McNee: The proponent has gone away on the basis of those discussions to look at it, and we would expect to have further considerations with them.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: So maybe.</p> <p>Mr McNee: It's a maybe.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Will the project be required to use green hydrogen?</p>	33

					Mr McNee: I'd have to take that on notice. I'm aware that one element of the proposal relates to hydrogen, but the particular details of that I'm not aware of at this stage.	
14	SQ22-000575	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Mount Tamborine - impact of groundwater bores on world heritage values of Springbrook National Park	<p>Senator WATERS: Lastly, on water extraction in Mount Tamborine, which is partially within the boundaries of the world heritage listed Springbrook National Park, can you tell me how many commercial groundwater bores there currently are? Is the department doing anything in relation to monitoring the impact of those bores on the world heritage values of Springbrook National Park?</p> <p>Mr McNee: I will have to take that on notice. I don't have any information in relation to that, but we're happy to look into it and provide you with information.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. Could you provide me with as much as you've got on that particular issue and the federal relevance there? I know the Queensland government's extending a moratorium, but I'm interested in the EPBC elements.</p>	34
15	SQ22-000577	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Wendy Askew	Feral deer report	<p>Senator ASKEW: I've got a couple of questions with regard to a feral deer done by this committee and tabled in May 2021. Is there someone here who can answer some questions on that?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: Could you ask the question? I'm not quite sure we can answer it, but we'll do our very best.</p> <p>Senator ASKEW: What funding is available to financially support states and specifically Tasmania in its endeavours to control fallow deer?</p> <p>Dr McEwen: I'll have to take that one on notice. I don't have any information about the report on deer.</p> <p>Senator ASKEW: Okay. This report was tabled in May 2021. There were 17 recommendations. You might also have to take on notice what progress has been made with regard to those recommendation.</p> <p>Dr McEwen: Yes, we'll take that on notice.</p>	34
16	SQ22-000578	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Wendy Askew	Feral deer	<p>Senator ASKEW: This is probably more to the government: is the Labor federal government going to commit to establishing national priorities for data gathering to address gaps in knowledge about the prevalence and impacts of feral deer, goats and pigs in Australia, which was one of the recommendations in that report?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I'm not in a position to provide a specific response to this report, which I understand was produced last year. I will say that one of the areas that the Samuels review goes to is the availability and adequacy of data and information. At the risk of revisiting a question that might be uncomfortable for Liberal and National senators, of course, the State of the environment report is a very important contributor to that, and that was a report was provided to</p>	34

					<p>the former Liberal-National minister and produced in the last term of the period of your government. I think we're happy to have a look at what specific information might presently be collected around invasive species and particularly around deer, but we'll see what we can come up with. Does that sound sensible, Mr Larsen?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: Absolutely. Also, these are really questions which are better directed to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, but we will see what we can come up with and get you whatever we have today.</p> <p>Senator ASKEW: I'll just put the final question, then. Could you come back to me on this as well. Do you support the removal of the status of fallow deer as partially protected in Tasmania? Those are the key issues.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: We'll come back to you, but I mention that at the environment ministers' meeting last week the issue of invasive species was canvassed and taken very seriously. We'll get back to you with information on the matters you've raised today.</p>	
17	SQ22-000579	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Shark mitigation and deterrent measures report - government response	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Following up with a similar question to Senator Askew in relation to Senate committee reports, nearly five years ago this committee released a report into shark mitigation and deterrent measures. I've consistently asked this question, and the previous government refused to respond to it: Minister, can you give me some assurances today that your government will respond to this report?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: Senator Whish-Wilson, let me make inquiries about that. I'm obviously representing the minister, rather than the decision-maker in this question. I am aware that you've been advocating around these issues and this particular report for some time, so let me chase down what I can.</p>	35
18	SQ22-000580	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Pilot whales - mass whale stranding	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Thank you. Just another quick question: you're all aware of the second mass whale stranding off Tasmania's west coast in recent months, pilot whales. I understand cetaceans are protected under federal law, but they don't really fall under any category under EPBC Act in terms of being endangered. Given the scale of the event and given that it's the second time that it's happened in a couple of years-it's made international news-has the department looked in any way, shape or form at potential research or a response into these mass whale strandings and whether mitigation measures, detection measures, or pingers and other kinds of deterrent measures could be used in the future?</p> <p>Ms Kennedy: That's something that we can probably take on notice and come back with a more fulsome answer, but my understanding is that there is a category of protection for cetaceans under the EPBC Act, and there are</p>	36

					<p>cetaceans that are individually listed as threatened as well.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: That's correct. I think pilot whales aren't. My understanding is they're not individually listed.</p> <p>Ms Kennedy: Sorry, I didn't know you were talking about that specifically. In terms of that specific species, I think we would have to come back to you in terms of what research we're aware of that is being undertaken or planned, because it would be several agencies that would, potentially, be involved.</p>	
19	SQ22-000880	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	MMG waste dump	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I have a question for the minister. It is within Minister Plibersek's power to stop this toxic waste dump going ahead. Has the minister been to the Tarkine to see what the devastation could be, and, if not, could you take on notice whether she will go? And has she been briefed about the significant implications that this would mean for an area that should, indeed, be World Heritage listed?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I don't know all of the details of Minister Plibersek's travel schedule. I'll see if I can find out. She has, of course, visited a range of different parts of Australia to better understand some of the environmental issues that are relevant there. But the department may have something to add in terms of the briefing process relevant to her approval role.</p>	36-37
20	SQ22-000581	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Monitoring information for the Great Barrier Reef catchment	<p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Sorry, Chair, this is my last question-it's a 'yes' or 'no'. What we heard earlier is that a big part of biodiversity conservation funding and our effort towards halting extinctions will come from some sort of market mechanism, of which we're still undergoing consultation. We don't have any details, really, from the department; we don't know how it will work; we don't know how much money it will raise; and there's no commitment from the government for more funding beyond what we already know from the forward estimates, yet we are going to present that at COP 15 as how Australia intends to fulfil our obligations as a megadiverse country?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I would say to look simply at individual dollar figures in a particular budget and say, 'Is that enough to deliver the ambition that the government is articulating?'-I don't think that's an adequate way of looking at how work has been done in this area, because, if you look at the totality-</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Would you say it's not adequate because the modelling hasn't been done, so we don't actually know how much it's going to cost? Is that a fair assessment?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I don't think we have a precise dollar figure at this stage, but, if you look at the totality of our environmental spend, for example; if you look at the money that we spend on the Great Barrier Reef-</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: I'm talking terrestrial here.</p>	43

					<p>Mr Larsen: A lot of the money we spend on the Great Barrier Reef is terrestrially spent money, on catchments and to address water quality issues. A lot of that is actually land repair. It's habitat repair. If you look at the-</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Has that been monitored? Are we able to-</p> <p>Mr Larsen: Yes, it is closely monitored.</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Can the department provide us with that monitoring information for the Great Barrier Reef catchment-the ecological monitoring of those programs?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: We can provide you with a great deal of monitoring data in relation to Great Barrier Reef programs, yes.</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: And ecological monitoring of the area that has those interventions.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I'll need to check precisely what we do and precisely-</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: That'd be great. Mr Larsen: We will get an answer on that. Senator DAVID POCOCK: Thanks very much.</p>	
21	SQ22-000582	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	30 by 30 - consultation of Indigenous protected areas and planned additions from states and territories	<p>Senator DUNIAM: I want to go back to 30x30. With regard to the 4.7 million hectares-I think that was specified before-of land that is in consideration for inclusion in the 30 per cent of terrestrial reserves: are you able to provide an itemisation or a map, on notice, of those areas we're contemplating?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: It was 4.7 per cent, not 4.7 million hectares. We will be able to provide information in relation to current proposals, of course.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: That's fine.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: We can also provide information on various regions across Australia, but, no, we don't have a comprehensive map as to exactly how you're going to get 30 per cent at this stage.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: No-only those ones that you referenced as more advanced, in a sense, of being readily included.</p> <p>Dr McMorrow: Can I clarify: of those two categories, we can absolutely give you a location of the consultation Indigenous protected areas that make up the two per cent. On the planned additions from states and territories, where what we have from the states at the moment is the estimated area: I would have to work with my states and territories colleagues to work out where they are. That might take a little bit more time.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: That's fine. If you can take that on notice, that would be helpful.</p>	43
22	SQ22-000583	Department of Climate Change,	Jonathon Duniam	Compulsory acquisition and involuntary caveats	<p>Senator DUNIAM: Thank you very much. Finally, on this issue: can you rule out the use of compulsory acquisition or involuntary caveats or covenants on private land as a tool to reach the ultimate target?</p>	44

		Energy, the Environment and Water		and covenants on private land	<p>Mr Larsen: There's simply no suggestion of involuntary mechanisms in any of the concessions we're having.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: On that basis, can we rule out those things I just specified?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: You talked about covenants. Individual landholders may choose to put a covenant voluntarily on their land, and that would be absolutely in scope.</p> <p>Ms Kennedy: I think he said 'involuntary covenants', which is not something that has been discussed at all.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: So we can rule that out?</p> <p>Ms Kennedy: I don't think it would be for public servants to rule in or out something like that, but I can confirm it's definitely not within our considerations at all.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Including compulsory acquisitions?</p> <p>Ms Kennedy: It's not something that's being considered.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Minister, off the back of Ms Kennedy's statement there that it's not for public servants to make that call: will the government rule out use of compulsory acquisition or involuntary covenants or caveats to reach the target?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: As per the officials, it's just not under discussion.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Will you rule it out on behalf of the government?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I'm the representing minister, but I think we can take it from the department that it is not a feature of the discussion at all.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Will you take on notice, as the minister at the table, whether the government is going to rule this out or not?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: Yes.</p>	
23	SQ22-000584	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Response to Samuel review - details of meetings	<p>Senator DUNIAM: What consultation is occurring at the moment, and with whom, on the work the government is doing about its response to Samuel?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: The minister held a stakeholder meeting on 19 September that had a whole range of representatives at the table, including the NFF, the BCA, the Minerals Council and the WWF, as well as the Australian Conservation Foundation.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Can you please provide on notice the list of attendees, the date and any notes from the meeting-any outcomes, communique or anything like that? That would be very helpful.</p> <p>Mr Knudson: Yes.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Are there further rounds of consultation of that nature or other types of consultation planned?</p> <p>Mr Tregurtha: We will continue to consult, as Mr Knudson has already said. The response will come out before the end of this calendar year but we will continue to consult beyond that as the government seeks to implement the legislative</p>	44-45

				<p>package that would then follow the response. There'll be further consultation as we move through that.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: So the department is running a program of consultation and is liaising with the stakeholders. Is the minister or her office running a separate consultation?</p> <p>Mr Tregurtha: No; they're joined up. The forum Mr Knudson referred to was held by the minister on 19 September. As an example, a week prior to that on 14 September the department also held a workshop. So we are working both with the minister's office and ourselves to ensure as much consultation as we can possibly get through.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: In relation to that, can I ask, on notice, for any dates of specific meetings, either departmental or minister's office or minister individually, related to the work on the response to the Samuel review, and with whom, where, when and the broad subjects covered in the meeting? That would be very helpful.</p> <p>Mr Knudson: My expectation is those will absolutely happen, but they haven't been scheduled yet. We'll confirm that.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Yes-anything planned, anything that has happened.</p> <p>Understood-you can't provide me on notice information about things that haven't happened!</p>	
24	SQ22-000585	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	<p>Government commitment to provide certainty for the forest industry including preservation of RFAs or equivalent post response</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Understood. Just on that, though: as far as I could tell at the last election, the then opposition, now government, indicated they would provide certainty for the forest industry, including the preservation of RFAs or equivalent. Is that still the government's position?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I think I've answered the question. We would prioritise certainty in all of the regulatory arrangements, and that will be the case in constructing a response to the Samuels review, which, as I say, is out at the end of the year.</p> <p>Mr Knudson: If I can add: even in the consultations the minister and the department have had to date, obviously the regional forestry agreements are coming up; so is the issue of how to deal with private native forests et cetera. Professor Samuels had a specific recommendation, I believe, in this space saying that the proposed standards of the act should be reflected in the regional forestry agreements. It remains to be seen where the government finally lands on this, but these are very active points of discussion. I think, as the minister said, at the end of the day the government plans to respond comprehensively and will deal with all key elements of the Samuels review, including on RFAs.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Indeed. I accept that there is a process to follow, and that is</p>	45-46

					<p>what is going on, but also the government set down an agenda at an election. They take it, and they get voted in or out in response to those policies. I was just seeking confirmation from the minister. I wonder whether you might take on notice whether it remains the case that the Australian Labor Party will back in RFAs or equivalent post response.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: Let me get the information. You're generally an honest chap, but let me find out where we got to-</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: I think you could have phrased that by saying, 'I will take at face value what you say'!</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I'm reluctant to take at face value-let me find out whether the commitment is as you expressed it. Let me come back to you on that.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: I appreciate that. I'm genuinely interested in how the government intends to deal with that.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I understand.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: I'm not seeking to play games. I just want information.</p>	
25	SQ22-000586	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Funding for Environmental Defenders Office	<p>Senator DUNIAM: I'll ask again. I have no issue with support for access to justice, women's legal services, Indigenous legal services et cetera. There is a difference between access to justice and legal representation and access to advocacy or activism. I'm wondering what processes are in place to ensure taxpayers' money isn't being used for advocacy and activism through these entities.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I think the normal arrangements for providing legal services funding and the normal framework for that provision of support will apply. I do understand what you're saying-</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: I know.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: and the distinction I think that you're seeking to draw.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: If you want to take it on notice, that's fine.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I'll take it on notice. I think the broad principle is that the focus of the measure, as clearly articulated by the minister, goes to access to justice. It seems Mr Hanlon may have something.</p> <p>Mr Hanlon: The funding is a grant. The design of those grants is in progress, so the funding to the EDO. That will be part of the design and the rules of the grants.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Okay. Minister-again, perhaps take it on notice-in that process will there be safeguards around how that funding is used to distinguish between legal assistance and other activities?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I think Mr Hanlon has indicated that the design of those things is under consideration.</p> <p>He may have some additional information.</p>	46-47

					<p>Mr Hanlon: We'll certainly take that in consideration in forming the guidelines. I'll take on notice those guidelines to come back to you.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: That would be great. Additionally, if the minister could take on notice whether, as has been expressed in this article-I will provide a copy of this to the secretariat-the minister's views on how funding ought to be used will be wrapped up in this development of guidelines et cetera.</p>	
26	SQ22-000587	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Dorinda Cox	Membership of First Nations heritage Protection Alliance	<p>Senator COX: Are you aware of the co-design process that was undertaken by the previous government in relation to pulling together an Aboriginal advisory group? My understanding is that this government is also embarking on that. Can you confirm that that's happening?</p> <p>Dr McEwen: Yes, that's correct. The process that commenced with the First Nations Heritage Protection Alliance under the previous government is being continued under this government. We've been working together for nearly a year now and have undertaken a first, limited range of consultation and are just embarking on a second round of deeper engagement on potential ways forward for reforming protection of First Nations heritage.</p> <p>Senator COX: Is that the continuation of the same group?</p> <p>Dr McEwen: It is essentially a continuation of the same work. The new government, though, has a clear commitment to standalone legislation for First Nations heritage protection, and so that's given a slight direction to the work that we're doing.</p> <p>Senator COX: Does that include transferring authority from the Minister for the Environment and Water to the Minister for Indigenous Australians?</p> <p>Dr McEwen: That is one of the issues that is being considered in both this process and also in the Juukan response.</p> <p>Senator COX: Does that also include support for Senator Thorpe's private senator's bill on the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to ensure that these laws are actually consistent with international law regarding cultural heritage?</p> <p>Dr McEwen: Support for that bill is a matter for government rather than-</p> <p>Senator COX: Maybe the minister can answer that question.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: The focus of the government's activities is to develop a government response to the issues that are canvassed in the A way forward report as well as the issues that have been publicly discussed, quite properly with some intensity, since the events at Juukan Gorge. I think, as the officer has outlined, we continue to work with the alliance and consult in that design process. I understand that there have been meetings recently or that have been scheduled and are shortly to occur.</p>	48

					<p>Dr McEwen: Yes. We have been undertaking an approach. We're also looking at the agreement with the alliance, which was for one year. We're working with government to look at extending that agreement for the co- design partnership.</p> <p>Senator COX: I'm not sure of the membership of the alliance. I'm happy for you to take it on notice if you can provide the names and the role capacities which those people represent.</p>	
27	SQ22-000588	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Threatened Species Recovery Hub	<p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Thank you so much for your time. I will just run through this quickly. They're to do with the Threatened Species Recovery Hub, a six-year program that wrapped up last year. On notice, could you provide the total budget over the six years and how that was spent; the total that the partners contributed to the six-year program; any advice to the former minister at the conclusion of the program as to whether it should continue or was a good use of taxpayer money; and any advice to the new minister regarding the Threatened Species Recovery Hub? And, could you also provide a review of the program? I've seen the impacts overview, but, if there is a department review of the program, that would be great. Thank you.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: Senator, we will take that on notice. Chair, could the witnesses for corporate and general questions and outcome 2 please be excused?</p>	54
28	SQ22-000589	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Coincidence of La Ninas with the Indian Ocean Dipole	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: My thoughts are with your staff dealing with all the stress in these extreme weather events. It can't be easy at all when you're under that kind of pressure. I just have a couple of questions of clarification around the weather. It's been claimed that we've never seen three La Ninas in a row with a negative Indian Ocean Dipole. Is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: I'd have to check that last statement, but this certainly isn't the first time that we've had three La Ninas in a row-in fact, it's the third time. I would have to take on notice the coincidence of the La Ninas with the Indian Ocean Dipole. The thing to remember about the Indian Ocean Dipole is that it's usually a phenomenon that extinguishes itself in late spring to early summer. Often they can be coincident with a La Nina event, but not through the whole La Nina cycle.</p>	58-57
29	SQ22-000590	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Forecasting for ocean temperatures	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Indeed. I know it's an extremely dynamic system and there are lots of uncertainties, but you do any forecasting for ocean temperatures?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: We do have a range of services around ocean modelling. We certainly provide a service around ocean temperatures to support our colleagues at the marine park authority. That's a routine service we've been providing to them for some time now. To the best of my knowledge, we don't provide ocean temperature services outside of the marine park, but I'd be happy to take that on notice if it's of interest to you.</p>	58

30	SQ22-000591	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Malcolm Roberts	Bureau of Meteorology reports	<p>Senator ROBERTS: Freedom of information requests that I've had with the bureau and Parliamentary Library searches show no specific reports with specific data showing or proving the need to cut human carbon dioxide. Minister, could you take it on notice to please provide the reports from the Bureau of Meteorology on which you rely for your climate policy. And please identify the specific location of the logical scientific points on which you rely-that is, the report name, title and page number that shows the evidence and the logical scientific framework proving causation, because I believe people need to know the basis of your policies, and I certainly do as a representative of the people.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: Senator Roberts, I'll take your question on notice and we will do what we can to assist. I will make this further observation, though. I've been in many forums in the parliament here in estimates where you've asked a similar question of our scientific agencies, and I know that they've previously provided information to you. I'm more than happy to provide some information to you, but I wonder why the question is being asked again. We're happy to assist, but we have had these exchanges on more than one occasion across a number of governments, and agencies have on more than one occasion responded.</p>	62-63
31	SQ22-000592	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	Cost of supercomputer	<p>Senator RENNICK: How much did that supercomputer cost?</p> <p>Dr Stone: The supercomputer?</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: Yes. How much did it cost?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: I can give you an exact number. We have a supercomputer that's running as we speak. If you wish to wait a minute, I can get you the actual number. It's of that order.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: Right.</p> <p>Dr Johnson: Or, if you'd like an exact number, I can take it on notice. It's around that-</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: I just find it interesting because everyone's jumping up and down about your name change for 200 grand, and there's a supercomputer that you bought for \$40 million that homogenises data that I don't think people are aware of at all.</p> <p>Dr Johnson: Yes. I'll get back to you on that, but it's of that order.</p>	64
32	SQ22-000593	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Hobart Antarctic and Science Precinct - advice related to the stadium proposal	<p>Senator DUNIAM: I have a question to put on notice, on indulgence. Noting that we've released outcome 3, I don't expect an answer here. The question relates to the Hobart Antarctic and Science Precinct, which is not something you have responsibility for but the AAD is an agency under the auspices of your department. I want to know-and you may not be able to provide the information, even on notice-whether the department or the AAD have been advised of any changes to the proposal around the Antarctic and Science Precinct</p>	67

					<p>by the Tasmanian government specifically relating to the stadium proposal that's currently being contemplated. If you could take that on notice, I would appreciate that.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I will take that on notice, Senator.</p>	
33	SQ22-000594	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Government's response to World Heritage Centre report	<p>Senator WATERS: Minister, will you be releasing the government's response if the World Heritage Centre doesn't release that of its own accord?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: That will be a decision for the minister.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Are you not representing the minister?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: Yes, and I am not aware of whether she has made a decision in relation to that question or not.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Would you mind taking that on notice, then.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: Sure.</p>	68
35	SQ22-000595	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Clean-up of Douglas Shoal - proportion of TBT and anti-fouling paint expected to be cleaned-up	<p>Senator WATERS: I think we're phasing out TBT, so hopefully that will be less of an issue if it does happen again. We've fixed your BTS programs now. What proportion of the TBT and the anti-fouling paint in general are you expecting to be able to clean up, and how much will, sadly, remain on the reef?</p> <p>Mr Walker: We'll take that question on notice.</p>	73
36	SQ22-000596	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	UNESCO letter to Australian Government related to boundary changes	<p>Senator WATERS: I will take that up in further detail once we go back to outcome 2. I've got one last tranche of questions that relate to boundary changes; I'm not sure if this is for the authority or the department, I'm sorry. Given the massive amount of reclamations at the ports of, particularly, Townsville and Gladstone over the last 20 or 30 years, it's very clear the boundaries of the World Heritage area have been changed by that port reclamation work. Many stakeholders raised this with the monitoring mission. UNESCO then wrote to the Australian government in March 2022, raising those concerns and specifically asking five things about that issue. I have a copy of that letter and I have a copy of the so-called response, which actually doesn't answer any of their five questions. My question to you is: why didn't the letter answer their questions and what are the answers to their questions? What is being done about the fact that the boundaries have been changed by the port reclamation work? There is a process for seeking a minor boundary adjustment; is the government going to follow that process, albeit belatedly? And, if not, why don't you just say that to UNESCO?</p> <p>Mr Thomas: We may need to take parts of that question on notice. I think that the areas in your question are not in the actual marine park, which we govern.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Of course, yes. They're in fact in the World Heritage area—you're right. So that will sit with the department.</p> <p>Mr Thomas: The port exclusion areas aren't in the marine park.</p>	74

					<p>Senator WATERS: Yes, I'm sorry. If you could go to outcome 2 again for me-</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator Waters, within reason: we have let all of the other officials go.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I do have some information on that but I'm at risk of misleading you if I answer that question because it's an important and detailed question. So if we're coming back, or are recalled, there will be another opportunity to provide an answer on that and we will of course be very pleased to do so.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I'll look forward to that. I might just ask if there's anything you can answer me on this: has there been any further correspondence since that March letter from UNESCO and the April letter in response?</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I don't know, but I do know that the experts who visited the reef in March on behalf of IUCN and the World Heritage Centre were briefed on this issue-</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Yes, that's why they wrote the letter, to which they received a nonresponse.</p> <p>Mr Larsen: I doubt whether there has been a further piece of correspondence, but we'll find out.</p>	
37	SQ22-000597	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Ross Cadell	Reporting arrangement for the Great Barrier Reef Special Envoy	<p>Senator CADELL: Can you get back to us with a reporting schedule for her? You said you were unaware of the reporting schedule-does one exist?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I said I'm unaware of the reporting arrangements. I don't know.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Okay.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Thank you, and thanks, Chair.</p>	75
38	SQ22-000598	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Regulatory permit system	<p>Senator WATERS: Could you table for me the regulatory permit system you currently go through? I don't know, so I'm keen to understand that better.</p> <p>Mr Ahyick: We will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. I'm not contending that you're not complying with that; I'm just interested in what it is and identifying whether it's adequate and whether further regulation is needed.</p>	80
39	SQ22-000599	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Research into PFAS in fish	<p>Senator Waters:</p> <p>There is an ongoing concern about PFAS in a variety of settings, and obviously a lot of that has been at airports and Defence bases so far. I'm told that, given the widespread nature of PFAS, it's now being found in all sorts of places such as Antarctica and the Antarctic, and concerns are being raised about PFAS in fish and potential implications for the food chain. Can you comment on any research that is being undertaken or that you are aware of in relation to PFAS in fish and the wider impact on marine life and waters?</p> <p>Mr Ahyick: I'm not aware of whether we've identified PFAS in fish at the</p>	80

					<p>moment, so I'd have to take that on notice and come back to you.  Senator WATERS: So it's not AIMS doing that research work.  Mr Ahyick: We're not doing particular research on that at the moment.  Senator WATERS: Is there no PFAS work being done by AIMS at all?  Mr Ahyick: I'll take that on notice and come back. I'm not aware of any at the moment.  Senator WATERS: Thank you.</p>	
40	SQ22-000600	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Research into whale strandings	<p>Senator Waters:  There have been a number of whale strandings in different parts of the country in the last few months. Is AIMS doing or has it done any research into trends in the incidence, location and frequency of those strandings?  Mr Ahyick: I'm not aware that we've done anything in particular around strandings. We have been monitoring whales and whale songs off the west coast.  Senator WATERS: Does that have any correlation with location or navigation?  Mr Ahyick: Not that I'm aware of.  Senator WATERS: Thank you for taking on notice whether you have looked at strandings and whether or not there are any lessons we can draw about whether the strandings are becoming more frequent or there are greater numbers. Are you undertaking any research into the causes of the strandings? No, because you're not sure if you do any stranding research. Righto. Could you take that on notice as well? Have you looked at whether there's any link between seismic testing and whale behaviour?  Mr Ahyick: We have undertaken significant research in noise. The results of that have been published. I do not have the detail of that, so any particular questions in regard to the impacts I will take on notice.  Senator WATERS: Thank you. Could you just give me a short precis and some links to the research you've done?  Mr Ahyick: We can do that.</p>	80
41	SQ22-000197	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Reputex modelling figures - media releases, speeches and ministerial correspondence	<p>Senator HUGHES: Well, I think it's not the beginning and end of it for us. Maybe you might be able to let me know-and I'm not sure if you've got some people here who can answer this-how many draft media releases and speeches have been provided to the minister's office, that the department's provided, that have contained references to the \$275 reduction in electricity prices, an 18 per cent reduction in wholesale prices or the creation of 604,000 jobs?  Mr Fredericks: I'll need to take that on notice.  Senator HUGHES: If we can just make sure that's what we'll get-how many of those, because that should be a number. Also, in the same vein, how many pieces of ministerial correspondence have contained those figures? But I would</p>	7

					<p>actually like to seek an assurance to the committee that this will no longer occur. Mr Fredericks: I'll absolutely take that on notice and I'll give an assurance, of course, that any of the work that we do complies with all the proper practices of the Public Service and the guidelines that we work to. That's the obligation that I have. I've accepted that there was an instance where we failed that. So we'll ensure that we don't do such a failure again.</p>	
42	SQ22-000172	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Ross Cadell	Energy pricing - list of stakeholders engaged with	<p>Senator CADELL: If we're going through this process of-is there a list that can be tabled later on notice of the stakeholders who you're engaging with in this process or can you rattle off external stakeholders and departments you're talking to about energy pricing?</p> <p>Mr Duggan: So external stakeholders beyond departments? Is that your question?</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Beyond departments, yes.</p> <p>Mr Duggan: As part of our usual course of our work, we engage with a broad range of stakeholders in the energy markets, including the market bodies. We engage with them very closely. We have the opportunity to talk to the market bodies, I understand, later this morning. We're also in constant contact with energy market participants-so retailers and wholesalers. That frequency of communication that we have with those stakeholders will inform our thinking. We don't have a formal consultation process associated with this particular exercise, but, as I said, we are in constant contact with them, so things that we learn through those discussions will factor ultimately into our advice.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Might I ask later to be tabled a list of those stakeholders and the dates of those meetings, if there were any?</p> <p>Mr Duggan: I'd be very happy to take that one on notice. It's going to be a very long list, because-if you give me a sense of the time frame that you're interested in, because, as I said, this is a frequent-all through my group, we're in constant contact with the energy markets.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: We'll take it on notice and we'll do our best. But the kind of ambiguity is that we're meeting with these stakeholders all the time about all manner of issues. And, of course, one issue that we now talk about with them is this issue. So, yes, it will be a very long list, but we'll do our best.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: And I get that. My concern is-and we're across why. Because there is no specific group that is briefing and in charge of this, we're looking at a wide range of stuff. I think it's odd that there is no set date. But if you can do your best, that would be great. And I'm happy to go back to you-1 July would be fine if you want to start there.</p>	9-10

43	SQ22-000173	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Ross Cadell	External consultants	<p>Senator CADELL: In the last couple-in the last two months, which external consultants have we sought on the broad range of policies to bring down prices?</p> <p>Mr Duggan: I can take that one on notice for you.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Thank you-that would be good. Do we know how much we spent on that?</p> <p>Mr Duggan: I can give you-I can go through-if it's helpful for you, I'm very happy to go through all our consultancies in the energy group. All of them will have some relationship to the issue of energy prices.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: We'll do that on notice for you.</p>	10
44	SQ22-000174	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Number of meetings between the Minister and gas suppliers	<p>Senator HUGHES: I just want to have a look around the gas issue. I'm just wondering if you can confirm, perhaps, Minister McAllister, how many meetings Minister Bowen has held with gas suppliers since the election and if you're able to provide the names of the companies and the dates of each meeting.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I'll have to take that on notice. I don't have that information with me.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: Perhaps the department can help here. How many departmental briefs have been prepared for Minister Bowen in advance of any of these meetings?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I'm very happy to take that on notice.</p>	12
45	SQ22-000175	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Meetings between the Minister for Climate Change and Energy and Victorian counterpart	<p>Senator HUGHES: So perhaps, Minister McAllister, you can let us know whether or not Minister Bowen has had any conversations with his Victorian counterpart with regard to the need to increase supply in the state of Victoria.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: I'll take it on notice.</p>	13
46	SQ22-000176	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Marinus link - modelling on Tasmanian electricity prices	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Have you got modelling on that?</p> <p>Ms Gowans: In terms of power prices?</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Gowans: Marinus Link has been subject to a lot of economic analysis. Right from the very beginning in the feasibility studies-</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Have you got modelling on the electricity prices-just a simple question.</p> <p>Ms Gowans: Do we have modelling-</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: On Tasmanian electricity prices.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: We'll take that on notice. We've certainly got-</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: You seemed very confident, in your explanation there, that it's going to lead to downward pressure on electricity prices in Tasmania.</p> <p>Ms Gowans: Would you like me to talk about what the RIT-T is for the Marinus</p>	16

					<p>Link? Generally, this is where we're getting the confidence from. Essentially, the RIT-T is a cost-benefit analysis and it's overseen by the Australian Energy Regulator. It assesses the net benefit to consumers in an electricity market.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: That's different to downward pressure on electricity prices in Tasmania, which is obviously a controversial issue. So could you take that on notice if you don't have the answers in front of you?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: Senator, we will take it on notice. But, to be fair to the official, she was trying to answer your question about why the RIT-T is the analysis which shows that there will be downward pressure on consumer prices in Tasmania. I just wanted to make sure that was clear. But otherwise we'll happily take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Thanks.</p>	
47	SQ22-000177	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Robbins Island and Whaleback Ridge projects - baseload power to Marinus Link	<p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: My question was: in Tasmania, what base load industrial power will you require to underwrite the investment in Marinus and, in particular, in relation to Robbins Island, which was going to be one of the biggest wind farm projects in the world? And now Labor's provided money for the Whaleback Ridge project for at least an initial analysis-or the energy park. Can it go ahead without either of those two wind farms-for Marinus?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: I'll take that on notice so I can go directly to-</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: I'm surprised you don't know that, considering we've talked about Robbins Island in estimates now for at least the last three or four years. If those big industrial projects don't go ahead, will Marinus be economic?</p> <p>Ms Gowans: The answer's yes. We'll need to provide you with some more detail, Senator, because essentially electricity can travel in both directions. One of the key economic benefits of Marinus is that it allows Tasmania's pumped hydro storage to be exported across into the NEM, but it similarly allows for Victorian wind farms and others to access the national electricity market to make those wind farms profitable. Marinus, I think, stacks up on its own but also enables those wind developments if that's the decision of the Tasmanian government.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: But without those wind developments-to be clear, you're saying to me that just pumped hydro will underwrite Marinus if we don't see one of those large wind farm projects go ahead?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: I think it's assumed that if the link is there, the investment in those sorts of projects is going to flow. That's been the evidence so far based on the announcement. One of the key things that have been raised with us with our renewable energy, like the Clean Energy Council and renewable energy proponents, has been a bit of a chicken and egg thing about being able to access transmission. There are some issues already with respect to congestion, so the</p>	17-18

					<p>fact that there is going to be a long pathway there where that link is going to be in place will enable those proponents to then bank on being able to access those markets.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Just to be clear, based on your answer, will pump hydro on its own be enough to underwrite Marinus if we don't see that stampede of investment in large wind farm projects?</p> <p>Ms Gowans: I think we'd have to take on notice the specifics, but I think they're not looking-</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Or are you saying there will be a stampede of investment into large wind farm projects in Tasmania?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: I won't say that. I'll just triple check. In terms of the AEMO modelling itself, I'm sure that it includes the development of new variable renewable energy. I just want to check on the precise projects.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Yes, if you could-if you could take on notice whether it requires the Whaleback Ridge project or the Robbins UPC project.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: Will do.</p>	
48	SQ22-000179	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Ross Cadell	Rewiring the Nation office - FTE	<p>Senator CADELL: How many full-time equivalent staff will the office have?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: We'll come back to you on that, Senator.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: On notice?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: Obviously, the budget just being recently, we are actually sitting down with our partners to ensure that those final governance arrangements that sit between the CEFC and the office, as well as the Australian Information Commissioner, are settled. So we may need to come back to you on that one.</p>	19
49	SQ22-000180	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Fawcett	CSIRO GenCost report - nuclear power generation	<p>Senator FAWCETT: I want to follow up on the questions that Senator Bilyk asked about the CSIRO GenCost report. You've indicated that a lot of your policy positions are based on the GenCost report. Are you aware of the fact that they took the high-end figure basically from their last GenCost report and, when questioned on that GenCost report in a House committee, they admitted that they have little expertise in nuclear power generation, so they went to an external provider, GHD, who looked on a website from the World Nuclear Association, and their claim is that's where the figure came from? The committee subsequently called the World Nuclear Association, who are the source for the GenCost report of this figure of \$16,000, and the Nuclear Energy Association said, 'That figure is not on our website. We never put it there. We don't support it and we think that price is grossly inflated.' It's all in the Hansard record from the committee inquiry.</p> <p>So given we have in black and white that the CSIRO-in fact they went on to say that because of the prohibition on nuclear power, they are not able to expend</p>	20-21

resources doing any detailed research or analysis. So you're basing the nation's energy policy on advice from a department that admits it has no expertise in this area. It has drawn a figure, which has been quoted by your department and the minister frequently, which has no direct source to a point in fact, and the organisation that they claimed it came from says they didn't produce that figure and it's grossly inflated. What are you going to do to revise your advice to government?

CHAIR: Senator Fawcett, could you provide that reference? I'm not sure the officials are across the committee you're referring to or the Hansard you're referring to-just to table them later?

Senator FAWCETT: I'm very happy to table it, yes. But the fact is very simple. The figure has no basis in fact. It is misleading and it's challenged by the group who were referenced as the expert. So I'm wondering what you're going to do to revise your advice to government.

Senator McAllister: Senator Fawcett, these are questions that really go to how CSIRO prepares its advice. You have an account of what happened in the committee. I wasn't part of that committee and, for obvious reasons, the officials weren't part of that committee because it was a committee that engaged with CSIRO, not the department. I think you're going to have to put these questions in the forum where CSIRO appears.

Senator FAWCETT: I will raise them with CSIRO. But the fact, Minister, is that your government's policies have largely relied on a claim that the cost point for nuclear is the most expensive. That is admitted by CSIRO and is refuted by the group who was claimed to have provided the figure. That part is a fact. So my question is: if the basis of the GenCost report is not accurate but that's what you've relied on in your advice to government, what will you do to revise your advice?

Senator McAllister: Senator Fawcett, that's a set of hypotheticals about 'if this happens, then this happens, then another thing happens, what will you do?'. I think it would be best if these questions were put to CSIRO. The officials are not in a position to comment on a report prepared by another agency. I don't know if we can go any further.

Senator FAWCETT: Minister, with all due respect, it's not a hypothetical. It's a fact and I will provide it. I'm happy to come back in five minutes time.

CHAIR: Senator Fawcett, it is a disputed fact.

Senator FAWCETT: It's in Hansard, Chair. So I don't know if you have to table it, because it's in Hansard- it's on the public record-but I'm happy to table it to facilitate. But my point to the minister is that it's not a hypothetical. It is actually

					<p>recorded in Hansard as a fact. And so my question is-</p> <p>CHAIR: It's very difficult for the rest of us to follow what we have not read and what we have not seen in the Hansard.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: Senator Fawcett, we'll take it on notice. We'll have a look at it. We'll come back to you.</p> <p>Senator FAWCETT: In taking that on notice, could you also have a look at the OECD NEA report issued in April this year? In fact I'm happy to table their graph from page 35, which looks at the levelised cost of electricity. I'll provide this to you. What it shows is that long-run nuclear power is already the cheapest form of electricity generation and that new-build nuclear is within the error bars of solar and wind already. And when you apply systems costs, nuclear power both long run and new is the cheapest form of generating electricity. That is also fact. That's in a report from the OECD issued this year. With that information, could you please indicate to me in your answer on notice what you will do to revise your advice to government?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: We'll take that on notice.</p>	
50	SQ22-000181	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Modelling on electricity prices - impact to consumers	<p>Senator DUNIAM: So the modelling does not take into account the impact of the arrangement around the 80 per cent debt? You said it's on the cable itself. And what impact, positive or negative, there may be on consumers-does it go to the debt?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: I'll double-check that. But the at-cost step when we did that modelling was not part of the former government's policy set, so that modelling would have been done on the usual sorts of return rates that are applied from private investors in transmission. I will triple-check that. The impact of that would be the at-cost debt. So it didn't cover this particular arrangement but it would mean that the costs overall would be lower than in that previous modelling, all things being equal.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: To the consumer.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: To the consumer, because the return on investment of the 80 per cent that would ordinarily go to private investors-that at-cost finance means that amount will not be passed on to consumers.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: I have further questions but-</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: We will come back to you on notice.</p>	23
51	SQ22-000182	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Fatima Payman	Ministerial briefing on electricity prices prior to the caretaker period	<p>Senator PAYMAN: As the minister was briefed, was the briefing around the potential increase in electricity prices, which may not be restricted to the DMP, prior to the caretaker period?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I want to be really fair on this to all senators. The questions you're</p>	23

		Environment and Water			<p>asking are about advice that we provided our minister, and it's actually about advice that we provided a minister from a previous government. In the ordinary course, we wouldn't provide evidence about that advice. So I'd rather, if I could, take that on notice and have a look at that and we'll see what we can do.</p> <p>Senator PAYMAN: My next question would be also about briefings, so that would probably be taken on notice as well. It is: did the department brief the minister or his office about the likely direction of the July DMO-that it was likely to increase-prior to the minister signing the regulation to delay its public release on 1 April?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: That is tricky. We're just in this tricky world. You're asking questions about advice we gave to a minister in a previous government. I'm cautious about giving that evidence. If it's okay, I'd like to take that on notice and just see what we can do on that one.</p> <p>Senator PAYMAN: That's all good. Thank you.</p>	
52	SQ22-000183	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Simon Birmingham	30 percent hydrogen target	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Was the 30 per cent target discussed in that meeting?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: The 30 per cent target for hydrogen? I'm not sure it was with that level of-</p> <p>Mr Knox: Only in passing-not specifically, no. Obviously the 30 per cent target is something which Snowy is working towards, and the minister is fully aware of that. But no, we did not delve into that with any great depth, as Secretary Fredericks has said.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Was that the only meeting between Mr Broad and Minister Bowen?</p> <p>Mr Knox: No. Roger mentioned a previous meeting that he attended and I did not.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: When was the previous one?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: Sorry, I don't recall.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: But it was prior to 23 August?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: Exactly.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Were you at that one as well, Mr Fredericks?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I was.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Was the 30 per cent target discussed at the previous meeting?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I won't go any detail about that. But that was- Senator BIRMINGHAM: You weren't at that meeting. Mr Whitby was. Mr Fredericks: I just said I was at that meeting.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: The previous one?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: The two-that's correct. I'm happy to tell you it was the usual</p>	27-28

					<p>meeting that a new minister has with an agency in the context of incoming briefing. So a range of issues were discussed at that meeting.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Including the 30 per cent target?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: The whole issue around Kurri and hydrogen and the Labor Party's election commitment at that stage was discussed.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Was Snowy ever asked to provide a proposal in time for that to be resolved for this budget?</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: I think I'd have to take that on notice.</p>	
53	SQ22-000184	Snowy Hydro Limited	Simon Birmingham	Burners requiring replacement	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: What has to be retrofitted or replaced, Mr Whitby? What scale of change are we talking about? You said burners and possibly emissions control. Can you just elaborate on those?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: Just to be clear, at 15 per cent, nothing has to be replaced. To achieve 30 per cent, as we have spelt out previously in this chamber, we have to replace the burners with modified burners. So it's not a terribly material part of the plant, but those burners will have to be replaced.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: How many burners?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I don't have that information off the top of my head.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Perhaps you could take it on notice to give that further information.</p>	29
54	SQ22-000185	Snowy Hydro Limited	Janet Rice	Total value of bonuses paid out to all staff for 2021-22 and 2022-23	<p>Senator RICE: But it's hydrogen ready. I will move to two other larger questions. First, I have a quick one that you will probably have to take on notice. You might have it. I want to know what the total value of bonuses paid out to your entire staff, not just your executive staff, for the current financial year and the previous one.</p> <p>Mr Knox: I think we should take that on notice. That is the easiest way to manage that.</p>	30
55	SQ22-000186	Snowy Hydro Limited	Janet Rice	Environmental Impact Statement - issues raised with the NSW government - Snowy Hydro's response	<p>Senator RICE: What I want to know is after the EIS, there was a letter sent to the New South Wales government from two dozen environmental organisations and 50 experts calling for a comprehensive analysis of transmission alternatives and the adoption of an underground solution. Has that work been done?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: If that has been requested of the New South Wales government, it is a matter for them.</p> <p>Senator RICE: No. It is a matter for Snowy Hydro, surely, to do, as the proponents.</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator Rice, if the letter, as you say, was sent to the New South Wales government-</p> <p>Senator RICE: But it was calling on Snowy Hydro to do the work. It was after the EIS-</p>	32

					<p>CHAIR: The question is to New South Wales because obviously Snowy Hydro don't have knowledge of that.</p> <p>Senator RICE: So you haven't done that comprehensive analysis?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: At least I'm not aware of the letter that you refer to.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Take on notice, then, Snowy Hydro's response to the issues raised with the New South Wales government in terms of the consideration of your EIS. Thank you.</p>	
56	SQ22-000187	Snowy Hydro Limited	David Pocock	Flows into Tantangara Dam over the last five years	<p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Thank you. Maybe on notice-I don't expect you to have them here, unless you do-I'm really interested in the flows into Tantangara Dam, say, for the last five years. How much was released into the dam? How much was transferred for power generation? That is to get more of an understanding of how that is working and how it is affecting the Murrumbidgee.</p> <p>Mr Whitby: Look, at the macro level, most of the inflows that come into Tantangara Dam are currently diverted into Eucumbene. There are relatively small releases made out of there under the water licences that I mentioned previously to meet environmental flow requirements in the Upper Murrumbidgee. But precise numbers I would have to take on notice.</p>	32-33
57	SQ22-000188	Snowy Hydro Limited	Perin Davey	Current storage levels	<p>Senator DAVEY: I would like to attend to water. Good to see you, Mr Whitby. What are the current storage levels in the Snowy scheme?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: The overall storage number? I'm afraid I will have to take that on notice, Senator. The reason is that you are obviously aware that the storage levels have been changing rapidly in recent times. I don't have them off the top of my head, I'm sorry.</p>	34
58	SQ22-000189	Snowy Hydro Limited	Perin Davey	Monthly releases for the Murrumbidgee and Murray Systems	<p>Senator DAVEY: Do you publicly report the monthly releases for the Murrumbidgee and Murray systems?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I think so, but I might take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: I would appreciate that. Could you also provide a link to that information? The MDBA was tasked with doing a feasibility study in how they manage water through the Barmah-Millewa choke. A lot of people will be going, 'That's on the Murray system a hell of a long way downstream of the Snowy system.' But there is an option in one of the considerations they were doing to managing water through the choke to minimise environmental degradation that includes the use of Snowy Hydro to transfer Murray releases to the Murrumbidgee at the head waters rather than further down the stream. Have you had any consultation with the MDBA or their consultants on that option?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: To my knowledge, no. But it's possible that some of Snowy Hydro staff have.</p>	35

					<p>Senator DAVEY: Could you take that on notice as well?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: Indeed.</p>	
59	SQ22-000190	Snowy Hydro Limited	Perin Davey	Facilitation of intervalley transfers	<p>Senator DAVEY: Are you aware of any hydrological modelling or financial assessment of such an idea or a concept that Snowy Hydro has done outside of the Barmah choke study that might have looked at doing that over the top transfer of water?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: The short answer is no. I might note that in the distant past that certainly I'm aware of, Snowy Hydro was involved in, under the right conditions, facilitating intervalley transfers. I think you may have been involved, Senator. I'm aware that those arrangements have been done in the distant past. I'm not sure of any recent work on that space.</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: Could you take that on notice? It would be very interesting just to see if there is a longer term. As you say, in the past, it has been done on an exceptional circumstances basis, even before my time in water. I would be interested to see, and particularly whether there is any ongoing work between the MDBA or their consultants and Snowy Hydro. That is it from me, thanks.</p>	35
60	SQ22-000191	Snowy Hydro Limited	Malcolm Roberts	Tunnelling machine Florence - number of workers	<p>Senator ROBERTS: Thank you for clarifying that. How many workers does Florence have inside the machine while it is underground on each shift, roughly?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I'm happy to take that on notice. I can speculate and answer, but I'll probably be wrong.</p>	37
61	SQ22-000192	Snowy Hydro Limited	Fatima Payman	Snowy Hydro 2.0 - advice to department and minister regarding timeframe	<p>Senator PAYMAN: Sure. When did you guys advise the department that Snowy Hydro 2.0 was running late?</p> <p>Consequently, when did you inform the department or the minister?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I think I would have to take that on notice. As for the exact timing, we do regularly report to the department on a monthly basis, but I would need to take it on notice in terms of the exact time.</p>	38
62	SQ22-000193	Snowy Hydro Limited	David Fawcett	Cost of South Australian Plants and maintenance costs associated with gas plants	<p>Senator FAWCETT: Thanks for being here. I have two quick lines of questioning. You have talked about the impact of the market suspension and the events earlier this year. I notice in your annual report on page 50 under the non-financial performance measures you talk about the impact of having to run your gas plants on diesel for extended periods. Can you quickly outline to the committee how many of your generating sites operate diesel? Obviously, the two South Australian ones do. That's all they have. Of the rest, how many actually use diesel? What is the impact of the extensive use?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: All the gas-fired stations have a back-up fuel capability to cater for the non-availability of gas, so all of them.</p> <p>Senator FAWCETT: Sure. What was the impact of having to run them for an extended period? You intimate in the report that there was some damage or</p>	38

					<p>extra maintenance or some impact, but you don't actually specify what that is.</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I will give some context. The company went to extraordinary lengths- and I mean every aspect of the company-to meet the shortfalls in the market to which we were required to meet. It was one end of the business to the other. Running diesel is not an easy measure. Obviously we have limited supply. We have to receive fuel deliveries and unload them. Depending on what locations, we are also required to inject what is called demineralised water into the turbine burners to meet our environmental requirements with respect to NOx emissions. We have to produce and source demineralised water. So there are extraordinary impacts on staffing required to manage the logistics of delivery of both the fuel and demineralised water to enable that plant to meet its requirements in order to meet market demand. In terms of direct impact on the plant, the running regime that was required to meet market demand meant that we suffered significant damage to our diesel generation plant that you mentioned in South Australia. We have been working hard ever since to recover and repair that damage.</p> <p>Senator FAWCETT: Could you take on notice to give us an estimate of the cost both to the South Australian plants and if there was any maintenance cost associated with the gas plants? That would be useful.</p> <p>Mr Whitby: Yes. It's a big question you're asking, but, yes, we're happy to.</p>	
63	SQ22-000194	Snowy Hydro Limited	David Fawcett	Diesel usage	<p>Senator FAWCETT: This is my last question on this line. If you could provide on notice to the committee the amount of diesel that you've used over the last 12-month period, that would be useful, thank you.</p>	39
64	SQ22-000195	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Fawcett	Nuclear power	<p>Senator FAWCETT: This is my last question. In your annual report, you talk about the importance of firming, and hydrogen being part of that. The OECD and the IEA in those papers I have given you highlight that the only viable way to get green hydrogen at the scale required is either through hydro, which is what you are seeking to supplement by using hydrogen, or nuclear power, which is consistent with the IPCC, which is consistent with a number of IEA reports and OECD reports. Would Snowy Hydro support the lifting of the moratorium on nuclear power so that we can at least do a detailed business case to understand whether that would make the production of hydrogen for your project both environmentally friendly and affordable?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I think that is question for policy makers, not Snowy Hydro.</p> <p>Senator FAWCETT: No. That is for them to decide whether or not they do it. My question for you is: would you support it? Have you done any analysis to date on the role that nuclear could play? All of the international agencies that are experts in this field, such as the IEA, the OECD NEA and the IPCC, highlight that is a</p>	40

					<p>critical role for nuclear to play if we are to actually constrain emissions and have reliable power.</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I think I would answer it this way. My focus as acting CEO is, first of all, making sure my business is operating safely; secondly, making sure that we are match fit for the future challenges that we have in the energy market; and, thirdly, executing our major projects, particularly Snowy 2.0, which is absolutely required to manage the energy transition that we cover. I'm also very keenly focused on delivering on the Hunter power project as soon as practically possible to meet the immediate challenges of the marketplace. That is what I am focused on while acting CEO. I think these are other broader matters which are-</p> <p>Senator FAWCETT: Can I ask you to take it on notice, then, because you say in your report you are looking to push towards 30 per cent with support from our shareholder, which essentially means the taxpayer. The taxpayer deserves to know whether you have considered all of the available science and engineering proof which is available internationally that says there is a more cost effective way to get the hydrogen you're looking for than what is currently being used or proposed.</p>	
65	SQ22-000196	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Ross Cadell	Hunter Power Project	<p>Senator CADELL: You mentioned earlier that you expect the Hunter power project still to have first power in December 2023.</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I did elaborate earlier that the project has been impacted by ongoing weather with respect to the site works preparation. It has been flooded and under water and impacted significantly on the site work. We are working through those issues at the moment. We'll have a better idea of that by the end of the calendar year.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Are there contractual or otherwise penalties for the plant not being at power by December 2023?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: So the company certainly will not have the benefit of the power plant.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: There are no other contractual penalties by not having it online?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: There are contractual penalties for some of the, obviously, supply and some of the construction, but it depends on the nature of the impact and the reason for that.</p> <p>Senator CADELL: Could we get tabled later a list of those penalties?</p> <p>Mr Whitby: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	41
66	SQ22-000200	Department of Climate Change,	Hollie Hughes	Transmission projects	<p>Senator HUGHES: How many cases related to transmission projects have you received this year? Which states are they in? Do you have that worked out?</p> <p>Mr Dyer: I think last year we had 212 total complaints, and 110 were from or</p>	43-44

		Energy, the Environment and Water			<p>about transmission lines. I will see whether we have that data about the year to date. For the 2022 calendar year through 30 September 2022, we have so far closed 117 cases, including 63 cases lodged prior to 1 January. Most of them were transmission complaints. I may have to come back to you with the precise number of the transmission complaints, but they have been the clear majority.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: What projects have seen the most complaints? What have been the biggest issues that have been raised?</p> <p>Mr Dyer: The most complaints-I don't normally go into project level with wind farms and what have you- but Victoria-</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: It might have to go on notice because I have a couple of specific projects that I would like to ask you about.</p> <p>Mr Dyer: Victoria has won the prize there.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: Well done, Victoria. Biggest debt in the country and now the most complaints and no gas exploration.</p> <p>Mr Dyer: Followed by New South Wales. If you look at the two main projects active there, that would give you some clues.</p> <p>Senator HUGHES: Can we go to transmission project by project? Again, if you have to take these on notice, that would be fine.</p> <p>Mr Dyer: Sure.</p>	
67	SQ22-000363	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Perin Davey	Kosciuszko National Park easment	<p>Senator DAVEY: On the national park component, Kosciuszko National Park, the iconic national park, is not a Commonwealth national park. Therefore, is it dependent on the state government to sign that easement for that national park, or is there a role for the federal environment minister? What do they call it?</p> <p>Mr Dyer: EPBC?</p> <p>Senator DAVEY: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Dyer: I would have to check in that case who is off there. I think there are 80 properties along the route that are publicly held. It is held by 10 organisations.</p>	46
68	SQ22-000198	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	Transmission lines	<p>Senator RENNICK: Thank you. In order to get to the 43 per cent reduction by 2030, how many kilometres of transmission lines will need to be built? What will the cost of that be?</p> <p>Mr Dyer: I might consult.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: We have to bear in mind that is a national target as well. The integrated system plan covers the eastern states. We can come back to you with some more analysis on that.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: Didn't you just legislate it? Hasn't it been legislated now, the 43 per cent reduction by 2030?</p> <p>CHAIR: I think the answer, Senator Rennick, is that the transmission piece you are discussing is not the totality of the elements that will go to achieving the</p>	46-47

					<p>plan.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: The reason I am asking is 2030 is only eight years away. My understanding is you have to get to 82 per cent renewables on the grid to get your 43 per cent reduction in CO2. Surely we must have a pretty clear plan and strategy in terms of how many transmission lines need to be built between now and 2030 to hook up enough renewables to get it into the grid, which is just eight years away.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: Yes. We do. I'm happy to table some information about those key projects. Obviously, Marinus is one of them. There has already been an announcement on that.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: How many kilometres of transmission lines will that involve?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: Bear with me. I will have to add that up for you. I note that is a point in time estimate as well. Since the integrated system plan has come out, Queensland has already announced their energy security plan. They will be investing in significant transmission. I can give you a breakdown of the number of kilometres per the actual projects as it stands now and that are underway. We can add that up.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: And that will get to 82 per cent renewables by 2030?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: The projects we have in train do align with the projects that are in the integrated system plan, a step change scenario. That estimate from the Australian energy market operator is that it will deliver about 83 per cent renewables by 2030. So it is in line.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: You can put a cost to that as well? Have we got an estimated cost of that?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: We can pull out the estimated costs of those projects as they are going through the regulatory impact tests at the moment.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: Sure.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: And give a breakdown of them.</p>	
69	SQ22-000199	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	Transmission lines - approvals	<p>Senator RENNICK: That is fair enough. I am curious because the GenCost report is often used as the basis to say that renewables are cheaper. But there's actually a lot of what I consider flawed assumptions in there, one of them being that you don't need any more transmission lines until renewables hit 50 per cent of the grid and there's no recycling costs taken into account. So that is a comment. You don't need to respond to that. In terms of all the transmission lines that you need to get built between now and 2030 to get to 82 per cent of renewables, have you got approvals for all that from the various landholders?</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator Rennick, I wonder whether Ms Brunoro will take this on notice. There is a lot of detail in what you are asking.</p>	47

					<p>Senator RENNICK: Well, we're in estimates. That is what it is all about-asking for the detail.</p> <p>CHAIR: But rather than her sitting there and adding everything up from her notes, would you be happy to take that further detail on notice?</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: What I would like to know is how far progressed you are in terms of getting the relevant and required approvals from both landholders and state governments and various other bodies-national parks or whatever it may have to be-in order to get those transmission lines built by 2030.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: The short answer I will provide is that those projects are at different stages of development and approval out to 2030. Some of those that are slated to be delivered in the latter part of the decade will be going through the engagement and consultation processes at a later point in time. Clearly, some of those arrangements are going to change with respect to the various landholders when we get there. We can let you know which projects have had engagement with the community and which ones are to come.</p>	
70	SQ22-000623	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Ross Cadell	Reputex modelling - correspondence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Could the Department table any correspondence between the Secretary and other members of the Executive regarding Reputex modelling on the Departmental website?</li> <li>2. Could the Department table any correspondence between the Minister's Office and the Department in relation to Reputex modelling?</li> </ol>	Written
71	SQ22-000601	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Government Spending Audit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Did the Department make a submission to the Spending Audit?</li> <li>2. Can you please explain the process the Department went through to contribute to the audit?</li> <li>3. What criteria was the Department provided to identify funding to be reviewed by the audit?</li> <li>4. Which programs/projects and/or what funding was cut from the Department through the audit?</li> <li>5. What level of stakeholder consultation was undertaken by the Department in relation to programs subject to the audit?</li> </ol>	Written
72	SQ22-000602	Snowy Hydro Limited	Hollie Hughes	Savings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How was the portfolio allocation of the measure Savings from External Labour, and Savings from Advertising, Travel and Legal Expenses calculated for your department and any portfolio agencies?</li> <li>2. Please advise the yearly profile of these savings?</li> <li>3. How does the Department plan to achieve these savings in the current financial year 2022-23 that has already commenced?</li> <li>4. Do existing contracts need to be terminated or renegotiated?</li> <li>5. Were there any exemptions for smaller agencies within the portfolio?</li> </ol>	Written

					6. Were there any exemptions for any critical service delivery areas of the portfolio?	
73	SQ22-000603	Snowy Hydro Limited	Hollie Hughes	Contractors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many contractors and non-ongoing staff are currently employed by the department?</li> <li>2. Please provide a breakdown of levels and costs associated with all contractors and non-ongoing staff.</li> <li>3. How many of these staff are ICT or non-ICT staff.</li> </ol>	Written
74	SQ22-000604	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Consultants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many active contractors does the Department have in place?</li> <li>2. How many have been entered into since 1 July 2022?</li> <li>3. What is the value of all contracts entered into since 1 July 2022?</li> <li>4. What is the spend on each contract to date?</li> <li>5. Please provide an outline of the work commissioned under each contract.</li> <li>6. What is the reason for each contract and why can't the work be undertaken in the Department?</li> <li>7. What is the category for each contract? (i.e.. Media, Research etc)</li> <li>8. Have all contracts been published on AusTender?</li> <li>9. Were all of these published within the 42 day requirement? If not, why not?</li> </ol>	Written
75	SQ22-000605	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Movement of funds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Did the Department request any movements of funds for administered funding in this budget?</li> <li>2. Can the Department indicate where these movements can be seen in the PBS?</li> <li>3. Can the Department provide a list of all the movements of funds for administered funding made for this budget above \$20 million?</li> <li>4. Can this list include the previous and revised four-year profiles for these funds?</li> <li>5. What external factors necessitated the movement of funds?</li> <li>6. What departmental or ministerial requirements result in the need to move funds?</li> <li>7. Did the Department/Secretary make any movements of funds for departmental funding in this budget?</li> <li>8. Can the Department show the committee where these movements can be seen in the PBS?</li> <li>9. Can the Department provide a list of all the movements of funds for departmental funding made for this budget?</li> </ol>	Written
76	SQ22-000606	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Hollie Hughes	Estimates variations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Were any estimates variations above \$20 million made during the budget process for the Department which resulted in decreased administered funding?</li> <li>2. Were any estimates variations above \$20 million made during the budget process for the Department which resulted in increased administered funding?</li> <li>3. Were any estimates variations above \$20 million made during the budget</li> </ol>	Written

		Environment and Water			<p>process for the Department which resulted in decreased departmental funding?</p> <p>4. Were any estimates variations above \$20 million made during the budget process for the Department which resulted in increased departmental funding?</p> <p>5. Can the Department provide a full list of all estimates variations related to the department's responsibilities for the budget process above \$20 million?</p> <p>6. Can this include the previous and revised four-year profiles for these funds?</p> <p>7. Can this include where these movements can be shown in the budget papers and/or the PBS of the Department?</p>	
77	SQ22-000607	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Advertising campaigns	<p>1. What is the current advertising budget of the Department?</p> <p>2. How many current government advertising campaigns are underway in the Department and can you list them for me?</p> <p>3. Which of those campaigns are new and when did they start? Please outline the value of each campaign and an outline of the purpose. Please provide details broken down into social media, print advertising, tv advertising, etc.</p> <p>4. Are there any campaigns which have ceased since May 2022 and can you list them?</p>	Written
78	SQ22-000608	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Research	<p>1. Has the Department commenced any market research contracts has the Department entered into since May 2022? If yes, the value of each contract and an outline of the work commissioned.</p> <p>2. Has the Department commissioned any research reports since 1 July 2022? If yes, the value and scope of work commissioned.</p>	Written
79	SQ22-000609	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Media monitoring	<p>1. How many departmental staff are allocated to supporting media monitoring?</p> <p>2. Which media monitoring services are being used and what is this costing the department?</p> <p>3. Has the department provided any of the Ministers' offices with media subscriptions? E.g. The Australian, Nine/Fairfax etc?</p> <p>4. What subscriptions do the offices have and what is the cost associated with them?</p>	Written
80	SQ22-000610	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Fraud	<p>1. Has there been any incident of fraud or the misuse of public funds since the election? If so, please provide a list outlining:</p> <p>a. The number of incidents per portfolio agency</p> <p>b. A description of each incident, including the amount of money involved</p> <p>c. The steps were taken to address the matter</p> <p>d. Whether the person involved is still employed by the agency</p>	Written
81	SQ22-000611	Department of Climate Change,	Hollie Hughes	Terminations	<p>1. Has any APS employee, locally-engaged staff member, or contractor been fired or had their contract terminated since the election? If so, please provide</p>	Written

		Energy, the Environment and Water			a. The name of the portfolio agency b. The reason their employment/contract was terminated	
82	SQ22-000612	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Bullying and harrasment	1. Have there been any reports, formal or otherwise, of bullying or harassment of staff in portfolio agencies since the election? If so, please provide a list outlining: a. The number of incidents per agency b. A description of the incident c. The steps taken to address the matter 2. Have any complaints, verbal or written, been made against a ministerial staff member since the election? If so, please provide a. The date and location of the alleged incident b. Whether the complaint was made verbally or in writing c. What action the department took following the complaint being made d. Whether the complaint was brought to the attention of the minister or assistant minister's office. e. Who in the minister's office was advised and when.	Written
83	SQ22-000613	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Security incidents	1. Have any security incidents been reported since the election? If so, please provide a list outlining: a. The number of incidents b. A description of the incident c. Whether the incident involved classified material (and if so, the security classification of the documents) d. The steps taken to address the matter	Written
84	SQ22-000614	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Ministerial submissions	1. How many decision briefs have been sent to the Minister's office since the election? 2. How many briefs have been returned to the Department with one or more recommendations not agreed? 3. How many briefs were signed off by the Minister after the due date?	Written
85	SQ22-000615	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Ministerial appointments	Has the Minister rejected any recommended ministerial appointments or recommendations regarding diplomatic appointments since the election? If so, when? What was the diplomatic post?	Written
86	SQ22-000890	Department of Climate Change,	Hollie Hughes	Employment	Has the Minister or the minister's office requested information, verbally or in writing, regarding terminating or amending the employment contract of any employee within a portfolio agency? If so:	Written

		Energy, the Environment and Water			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. When was the information requested?</li> <li>b. How was the request made (email, phone call, WhatsApp messaging etc)?</li> <li>c. When was the information provided?</li> <li>d. What level (e.g. SES band 1) was the individual in question employed at?</li> <li>e. Is the individual still employed by the Department?</li> </ul>	
87	SQ22-000616	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Stakeholder engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the Minister or the Minister's office had any contact with trade union representatives since the election? If so, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Please provide the name and position of each trade union representative</li> <li>b. the nature of the contact (email correspondence, phone conversations, meetings)</li> <li>c. The date of each meeting and/or conversation</li> <li>d. Topics discussed</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Has the Department had any contact with trade union representatives since the election? If so, please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The name and position of each trade union representative</li> <li>b. The nature of the contact (email correspondence, phone conversations, meetings)</li> <li>c. The date of each meeting and/or conversation</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Has the Minister or the minister's office requested the Department meet with, or speak to, any stakeholders since the election? If so: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The name, position, and organisation of each stakeholder</li> <li>b. The date of each meeting and/or conversation</li> <li>c. The topics discussed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Written
88	SQ22-000617	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	FOIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many officers are currently responsible for FOIs?</li> <li>2. How much money has been spent on external legal advice for FOI's since 1 July 2022?</li> <li>3. On average how many days does it take to prepare an FOI response?</li> <li>4. Are FOI responses provided to Ministerial Offices before they are released to the applicant?</li> <li>5. If yes, how many days on average is it taking for each FOI request to be cleared by the Ministerial Office.</li> <li>6. What staffing level in each Ministers' office is responsible for providing advice to the Department on clearance of an FOI?</li> <li>7. From July 1 2022, how many FOI's have been provided late? What was the reason for the late status?</li> <li>8. From July 1 2022, How many FOI's have been refused? On what basis were they refused?</li> </ul>	Written

89	SQ22-000618	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Ministerial staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Since May 2022 how many staff were seconded to the Minister's offices and for what period of time? APS/SES level of each staff member? Outline of duties?</li> <li>2. What travel has been undertaken by staff on secondment that has been charged to the Department?</li> <li>3. How many staff are still seconded to these Ministerial offices, by level and for what period of time?</li> <li>4. How many MOPS Act staff are employed by Ministers in this portfolio? What is the breakdown of staff at different levels (i.e. chief of staff, senior, adviser, assistant, etc).</li> <li>5. Can you please detail the primary work locations for staff in the Minister's office and how many are based at each location?</li> <li>6. What if any departmental training has been provided to Ministerial staff?</li> <li>7. Have all staff members in ministers and assistant ministers' offices received a security clearance? Please provide a breakdown of how many staff have and how many staff have not received a security clearance for each portfolio office. When do you expect all staff to have received their security clearance?</li> <li>8. How many security breaches have occurred within the Minister's APH offices relating to sensitive documents?</li> </ol>	Written
90	SQ22-000619	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Ministerial supplies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the total expenditure by the Department on office supplies for Ministers' offices?</li> <li>2. How much has been spent on the following within the Minister's offices: Business cards, letterhead, mobile phones, desktop computers, laptops, tablets, headphones/airpods, cameras for photography and videography, digital subscriptions (adobe creative suite, canva, otter etc)</li> <li>3. Can you please detail the cost associated to the department to establish IT/Workstations for staff at each of the work locations for Ministers within the portfolio?</li> </ol>	Written
91	SQ22-000620	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Departmental staffing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can the Department please provide a breakdown of staffing across all APS levels and SES officers?</li> <li>2. Can the Department please provide a gender breakdown of staffing across all APS levels and SES officers.</li> <li>3. Can the Department please provide a gender breakdown of staffing?</li> <li>4. How many staff in the department identify as Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander? Does this meet the department's targets for representation?</li> <li>5. Can you please outline any and all support and networking groups that exist within the department for Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander staff?</li> <li>6. How many staff in the department identify as members of the LGBTIQ+ community? Does this meet the department's targets for representation?</li> </ol>	Written

					<p>7. Can you please outline any and all support and networking groups that exist within the department for LGBTIQ+ staff?</p> <p>8. Since 1 July 2022 have any staff breached the APS code of conduct?</p> <p>a. If yes, please break down by all APS levels and SES officers.</p> <p>b. What action has been taken including dismissals, suspensions and workplace training/remediation?</p> <p>c. Have there been any reported cases of fraud by departmental staff?</p> <p>d. If yes, please break down by all APS levels and SES officers.</p> <p>e. What action has been taken including dismissals, suspensions and workplace training/remediation?</p> <p>9. Have any departmental staff made complaints to the Fair Work Commission?</p> <p>10. Can the Department outline the status of its latest Enterprise Agreement? When did or will this expire?</p> <p>11. What is the status of the new enterprise agreement?</p> <p>12. What arrangements are in place in between?</p> <p>13. How many flexible work arrangements are in place?</p> <p>a. How many of these have been in place since the start of the COVID pandemic</p> <p>b. What direction has the department given staff about returning to work in departmental facilities post-COVID?</p> <p>14. Have there been any breaches of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 since 1 July 2022?</p> <p>15. Since the change of Government this year, have the related machinery of government changes resulted in a decrease of the Department's/Agency's physical footprint or ASL based outside of Australian capital cities?</p> <p>a. If so, from which locations?</p> <p>b. If so, how many ASL?</p> <p>c. If so, have these resources gone to capital cities?</p> <p>d. If so, what was the cost to the taxpayer of these changes?</p>	
92	SQ22-000621	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Travel	<p>1. Please provide a list of all ministers and assistant ministers who have travelled overseas since the election, including:</p> <p>a. The dates of travel</p> <p>b. Locations</p> <p>c. The names and positions of any staff and APS who travelled with them</p> <p>d. A copy of their final itinerary</p> <p>2. Please provide a breakdown of the costs for each overseas visit for ministers and assistant ministers, and their staff, in the foreign affairs and trade portfolios, including:</p> <p>a. Accommodation</p>	Written

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Flights</li> <li>c. Meals</li> <li>d. Incidentals</li> </ul> <p>3. Have any ministers, assistant ministers or staff travelled first-class on a commercial aircraft since the election (please include any upgrades)?</p> <p>4. How many times has a minister or assistant minister used the special purpose aircraft since the election? Please include a list outlining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The date of each trip</li> <li>b. The departure and arrival location</li> <li>c. The names of the minister and/or assistant minister and staff on the flight</li> <li>d. The kilometres of each leg</li> <li>e. Carbon emissions of each leg, if known</li> </ul> <p>5. Has any advice been provided to the Department regarding ministers and assistant ministers' personal preferences while overseas? If so, please provide a copy of the advice?</p> <p>6. Please provide a list of all international conferences/meetings that you expect the Australian Government to be invited to attend in 2022 and 2023. Who has represented Australia at these conferences/meetings in the past?</p>	
93	SQ22-000622	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Catering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Total expenditure by the Department on catering since 1 July 2022?</li> <li>2. Of that, how many events were attended by the Minister and/or their staff?</li> <li>3. Can you please provide a list of attendees for each function and their organisations?</li> <li>4. Can you please provide details of any entertainment?</li> <li>5. Can you please provide details of any alcohol served?</li> </ul>	Written
94	SQ22-000624	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	"Contrast painting" of wind turbine rotor blades to reduce bird collision fatalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the Minister aware of research conducted by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research which found "contrast painting" of wind turbine rotor blades significantly reduced bird fatalities through collision with moving turbine rotor blades1?</li> <li>2. Does the Minister believe "contrast painting" of wind turbine rotor blades represents current best practice to reduce bird fatality from collision with moving turbine rotor blades?</li> <li>3. Is the Department considering including "contrast painting" as a contingent criteria for EPBC approvals of wind farm projects in avian flight paths?</li> <li>4. Will the Minister be advising the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and other authorities responsible for building and construction</li> </ul>	Written

					<p>regulation that all wind turbines constructed in avian flight paths should be painted in such a way as to minimise bird collision in line with contemporary best practice?</p> <p>5. If the Minister believes the science is robust concerning the efficacy of "contrast painting" of wind turbine rotor blades to reduce bird collision fatalities, will the Minister ensure contrast painting of wind turbine rotor blades is captured in regulation by the relevant authorities and enforced for all future wind turbine construction in avian flight paths?</p>	
95	SQ22-000625	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Carbon footprint	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the carbon footprint of each portfolio agency (CO2e tonnes per annum)?</li> <li>2. What percentage of the portfolio agency's electricity usage is from renewables?</li> <li>3. How many vehicles are owned by the Department and portfolio agencies domestically and internationally?</li> <li>4. How many are low emissions vehicles (domestic and international reported separately)?</li> <li>5. Please provide a copy of each agency's plan outlining how they will reduce their emissions to net-zero by 2030.</li> </ol>	Written
96	SQ22-000626	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Budget Process – Responsibilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many measures relate to the responsibilities of the Department in the Budget?</li> <li>2. Can you provide a list of responsibilities which the Department/Agency had in May 2022 which are no longer an area of responsibility for the Department/Agency?</li> <li>3. Can you provide a list of responsibilities which the Department/Agency has acquired since May 2022?</li> <li>4. Were any budget decisions related to the Department made through the minors process?</li> <li>5. Can you provide a list of these decisions, and where they are shown in the budget papers?</li> <li>6. Were any budget decisions related to the Department done via an exchange of letters?</li> <li>7. Can you provide a list of these decisions, and where they are shown in the budget papers?</li> </ol>	Written
97	SQ22-000628	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Hollie Hughes	Procurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has there been any change to any procurement panel since the election? If so please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the name of any business that has been added or removed from a panel;</li> <li>- the name of the panel; and</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Written

		Environment and Water			<p>- The portfolio agency that owns or manages the panel.</p> <p>2. Has any minister, assistant minister or ministerial adviser requested information or sought advice on the composition of a procurement panel since the election? Have they sought any changes to a procurement panel? If so, please provide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Who made the request</li> <li>- The date information or advice was sought</li> <li>- How was the request made (email, phone call, WhatsApp messaging etc)</li> <li>- When was the information or advice provided?</li> </ul> <p>3. Have any tenders been advertised on AusTender since the election? If so, please provide a list outlining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The number of tenders advertised per agency in the portfolio</li> <li>- A brief description of each tender, its estimated value, its current status and whether it is an open tender or direct source</li> <li>- The name of the successful tenderer</li> </ul>	
98	SQ22-000201	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Outcome 1 - definitions	<p>Outcome 1 highlights the Department's role in coordinating "transition energy to net zero while maintaining security, reliability and affordability".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How do you define "affordability"?</li> <li>2. Is it best defined as electricity per megawatt hour?</li> <li>3. Has the Government set a per megawatt hour target?</li> <li>4. How will you know if you have been successful in delivering affordable energy without a megawatt per hour target?</li> <li>5. Does the Department consider a 50 percent increase in retail energy prices and a 40 percent increase in gas prices, as outlined in the Budget, 'affordable'?</li> <li>6. In regard to gas, what is an affordable gas price (dollars per gigajoule)</li> <li>7. How does the Department define "reliability"?</li> </ol>	Written
99	SQ22-000202	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Name changes to programs or projects	<p>Energy</p> <p>What existing programs or projects have had their names changes since the election?</p>	Written
100	SQ22-000203	Department of Climate Change,	Hollie Hughes	Electricity and gas price outlook	<p>What is the electricity and gas price outlook for each jurisdiction in the National Electricity Market and Western Australia for the following periods:</p> <p>a. 2022-23 summer</p>	Written

		Energy, the Environment and Water			b. 2023 winter c. 2023-24 summer	
101	SQ22-000204	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Community batteries	Please provide a list of the locations of community batteries already announced by the Government, as part of its Powering Australia – Community Batteries for Household Solar program. Please include: a. The relevant electorate b. The date the battery was announced c. The private sector partner that will deliver and maintain each battery	Written
102	SQ22-000205	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Transmission	1. What transmission projects have been, or will be, declared "transmission of national significance"?  2. When will agreement be reached on which projects will be declared as "transmission of national significance"  3. Will projects be identified and declared by energy ministers or AEMO?  4. Will each project be required to pass a cost-benefit assessment in order to be declared? If so, will the assessment matrix be publicly available?  5. Will there be projects declared "transmission of national significance" that have not been identified as actionable by AEMO?  6. According to the communique, declaring a project "transmission of national significance" will accelerate the timely delivery of these projects. a. How will this be achieved? b. How will it ensure better community consultation? c. What is the average length of community consultations at present (in months)? Will this increase or decrease in length under this proposal?	Written
103	SQ22-000206	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Meeting of Energy Ministers - communique	The communique released following the recent meeting of Energy Ministers states that governments will assess community needs associated with the pipeline of transmission projects.  1. Who is leading this assessment? 2. Has this work begun? When is it expected to conclude? 3. What have been the observations so far? 4. What stakeholders have been consulted to date? 5. What regional communities have been visited as part of this assessment?	Written

					<p>6. Please provide the dates of each visit and what community engagement activities took place</p> <p>7. Have any consultants been engaged to work on the strategy?</p> <p>8. For each contract, please provide:</p> <p>a. the name of the consultancy</p> <p>b. the scope of work outlined in the contact</p> <p>c. the start and end date of the contract</p> <p>d. the number of consultants engaged</p> <p>e. the cost of each consultant per hour and</p> <p>f. the total cost to the Commonwealth.</p>	
104	SQ22-000207	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	First Nations Clean Energy Strategy	<p>1. What is meant by a "First Nations Clean Energy Strategy"?</p> <p>2. Was this proposal put forward by the Federal Energy Minister or one of the state and territory ministers?</p> <p>3. Was this proposal first put forward by the Minister or minister's office or was it a recommendation of the Department?</p> <p>4. Have departmental staff been redeployed to work on the strategy? If so, what section/s of the department did they come from</p> <p>5. Has worked commenced on the strategy? When is it expected to be concluded?</p> <p>6. What stakeholders have been consulted on the strategy to date?</p> <p>7. Have any consultants been engaged to work on the strategy? For each contract, please provide:</p> <p>a. the name of the consultancy</p> <p>b. the scope of work outlined in the contact,</p> <p>c. the start and end date of the contract,</p> <p>d. the number of consultants engaged</p> <p>e. the cost of each consultant per hour and</p> <p>f. the total cost to the Commonwealth.</p>	Written
105	SQ22-000208	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Hollie Hughes	Regional Planning Scenarios	<p>1. Who is leading the development of "regional planning scenarios"</p> <p>2. Has this worked commenced? When is it expected to be completed?</p>	Written

		Environment and Water			<p>3. Will these reports be publicly available?</p> <p>4. What regions have been selected for this process?</p> <p>5. What are all the scenarios you are planning for?</p> <p>6. Has the Commonwealth committed any resources, financial or otherwise, to developing this strategy?</p> <p>7. Have departmental staff been redeployed to work on the strategy? If so, what section/s of the department did they come from?</p> <p>8. What stakeholders have been consulted on the strategy to date?</p> <p>9. Have any consultants been engaged to work on the strategy? For each contract, please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the name of the consultancy</li> <li>the scope of work outlined in the contact</li> <li>the start and end date of the contract</li> <li>the number of consultants engaged</li> <li>the cost of each consultant per hour and</li> <li>the total cost to the Commonwealth.</li> </ol>	
106	SQ22-000209	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Demand management	<p>The communique released following the recent meeting of Energy Ministers acknowledges the role of demand side management in reaching net-zero emissions.</p> <p>1. Does demand side management include things like asking consumers not to run their air conditioners or dish washers?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there a likelihood we will see more of these type of requests in the future?</li> </ol>	Written
107	SQ22-000210	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Prime Minister's 19 October 2022 announcements	<p>The Prime Minister's media release of 19 October states that the Commonwealth will provide \$3.12 billion towards the \$3.6 billion Marinus Link project (low-cost loan and equity investment).</p> <p>1. The Commonwealth is paying 86 percent of project costs, but is only getting 33 percent ownership. Is this correct?</p> <p>The Prime Minister's media release says the low-cost financing from Rewiring the Nation will reduce the annual costs of Project Marinus to customers by half.</p> <p>2. Can you explain how low-cost financing will deliver a 50 percent reduction?</p> <p>The Government has announced that \$1 billion of low-cost debt will be provided</p>	Written

					<p>to Battery of the Nation projects including Tarraleah Power Station and Lake Cethana pumped hydro.</p> <p>3. Has the Lake Cethana project been subject to a feasibility study yet?</p> <p>4. When did the Department first raise the idea of an agreement with their Victorian counterparts?</p> <p>5. When was the Department first informed of the Government intention to announce funding for Victorian transmission projects on 19 October?</p> <p>The Prime Minister's media release on 19 October stated that the Government's Rewiring the Nation plan will fast track Victorian Renewable Energy Zones (REZs).</p> <p>6. Which REZs will be fast tracked?</p> <p>7. What transmission projects will it support?</p> <p>8. Does the agreement with Victoria include funding for the Western Renewables Link?</p> <p>a. If so, why wasn't this included in the media release?</p> <p>9. What offshore wind projects will it support?</p> <p>10. Will all transmission projects funding under this agreement be considered 'actionable' by AEMO?</p>	
108	SQ22-000211	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Post 2025 market design work	<p>1. How much money has the Commonwealth contributed to the Energy Security Board's Post 2025 market design work to date?</p> <p>a. Please provide the amount of money and date of each payment?</p> <p>2. Will any further payments be made to the ESB? If so, please provide:</p> <p>a. The date of future payments and the amount of money to be paid?</p> <p>3. How many staff are currently seconded to the ESB to work on the post 2025 market design work?</p>	Written
109	SQ22-000212	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Market regulators	<p>On the energy.gov.au website, there is a consultation paper titled Extension of AEMO functions and powers to manage supply adequacy in the East Coast Market.</p> <p>1. Was that document drafted by officials in your department?</p> <p>2. Was it approved by all Energy Senior Officials prior to circulation?</p> <p>3. Who is the Senior Energy Official representing the Commonwealth?</p> <p>4. Was the paper approved by Minister Bowen's office? When was approval given?</p> <p>5. The consultation paper states that "the risk of [gas] shortfalls is likely to grow without greater certainty about future new supply and infrastructure investment" Is that still the Department's position?</p> <p>6. Energy ministers have announced urgent regulatory amendments to empower AEMO to manage gas supply and reliability issues. Can you outline what those amendments are?</p>	Written

					<p>7. In regard to the proposed directions powers, can you please outline the range of 'specific actions' that AEMO could instruct entities to undertake?</p> <p>8. Could AEMO instruct an exporter to redirect gas supplies to the domestic market?</p> <p>9. What mechanisms are in place to prevent AEMO from exercising its powers in a way that will violate gas contracts made between market participants?</p> <p>10. Would the expanded AEMO powers have helped deal with the situation last winter, if AEMO had these powers back then?</p> <p>a. If so, how?</p> <p>11. Is AEMO sufficiently resourced to effectively and appropriately exercise its expanded remit and powers?</p> <p>12. Has AEMO raised the need for additional resourcing?</p> <p>13. How much do they estimate they will need?</p> <p>14. Who ultimately pays for AEMO's operating costs?</p> <p>15. What assurances does the market have that AEMO won't conduct its new powers in a way that seeks to influence and market-based outcomes?</p> <p>16. What governance and appeal processes will be in place to address AEMO's conflict of interest as both a market participant and regulator?</p> <p>17. Who will regulate how AEMO conducts itself in its new role as a market participant buying and selling gas?</p> <p>18. As the market finds itself in 'emergency' situations with increased frequency in the years ahead, at what point do the emergency powers effectively become the new market structure?</p> <p>19. How much compensation has been paid out by AEMO as a result of its interventions in the market since the election?</p> <p>a. How many times have they intervened (since the election)?</p> <p>b. How many times did they intervene in the market in 2021?</p> <p>c. Who ultimately pays for the compensation paid to parties?</p> <p>20. The consultation paper states that AEMO's gas trading fund will be given \$35 million initially. Where will these funds come from?</p> <p>a. Is the annually or a one-off payment?</p> <p>b. Do you see it growing over time?</p>	
110	SQ22-000213	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Hunter Power Project business case	<p>1. Has the Department advised Snowy Hydro to prepare a new business case for the Hunter Power Project?</p> <p>a. When is it expected to be completed?</p>	Written

111	SQ22-000214	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Hunter Power Project funds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Government had promised an additional \$700 million to the Project to convert it to hydrogen. Will this be enough or does your analysis show that more funds will be needed?</li> <li>2. How much additional resourcing will be needed?</li> </ol>	Written
112	SQ22-000215	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Hunter Power Project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Snowy Hydro has previously advised the Committee that the Hunter Power Project was 'on track'. Do you still expect it to be operational in December 2023? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Please provide an updated list of key milestone dates (all 12 milestones in the business case).</li> <li>b. How much money will Snowy forgo for every month the Hunter Power Project is not operating, beyond December 2023?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. According to the business case, the Hunter Power Project is needed to safeguard system security and manage NEM supply-demand balance. What are the consequences of the project not being operational in December 2023?</li> <li>3. The business case for the Hunter Power Project had a projected internal rate of return between 8.4 and 12.3 percent. Can you assure the Committee that any changes made to the Project as a result of Labor's policy will not negatively impact the IRR?</li> <li>4. Given the recent announced closures of coal-fired generators, is it likely that the IRR for the Hunter Power Project is even better than outlined in the business case?</li> <li>5. According to the business case, the annual cost to run the plant was \$4.9 million. What is the estimated annual cost under the government's proposal?</li> </ol>	Written
113	SQ22-000216	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Gas plant - hydrogen	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can you provide an example of a gas plant that is currently operating commercially using 30 percent hydrogen?</li> <li>2. Has Snowy Hydro sourced any green hydrogen for the plant?</li> <li>3. Is Snowy aware of any companies producing green hydrogen, in Australia or overseas, on the scale it needs?</li> <li>4. Has Snowy Hydro had any conversations with local landowners about purchasing additional land in order to produce hydrogen?</li> </ol>	Written

					5. How much additional land would be required to produce green hydrogen on-site – at the scale needed to operate the plant?	
114	SQ22-000630	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Clearing application in the Kimberly by Buru Energy	<p>An application has been made to clear 1147 kilometres in the Kimberly by Buru Energy for seismic surveys.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the exact location of this application?</li> <li>2. What is the status of this application?</li> <li>3. How much land has already been cleared by Buru Energy in that area for seismic surveys?</li> <li>4. How did the department justify this previous clearing?</li> <li>5. Is the Government aware of what species can, or already have been, put at risk by this clearing, such as the greater bilby and northern brushtail possum?</li> <li>6. How does the clearing of this land fit into the Government's plan of zero extinctions?</li> <li>7. How will the department ensure that the cultural heritage and sacred sites in this area will be protected?</li> </ol> <p>The Kimberly is a significant region, both in terms of biodiversity, cultural heritage for First Nations people but also for tourism.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Why is the Government selling off this landscape to support a dying industry?</li> </ol>	Written
115	SQ22-000633	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Machinery of Government expenditure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much money has been spent to establish the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water to date?</li> <li>2. How much money was allocated to support the machinery of government change?</li> <li>3. As part of the machinery of government change, how much money has been spent on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A new website (including design and other associated costs)</li> <li>b. New stationery and business cards</li> <li>c. Signage</li> <li>d. Removalist services</li> <li>e. Refurbishment costs</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written
116	SQ22-000634	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Equipment for flexible working	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much money has been spent on equipment to support staff working from home?</li> <li>2. Please provide a list of office items that have been provided to employees working from home? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Please include the number of times each item has been issued.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written

117	SQ22-000635	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Workplace health and safety inspections of home offices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the Department carried out workplace health and safety inspections of any home offices?</li> <li>2. If so, please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The number of inspections carried out</li> <li>b. The total cost to date of the inspections</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written
118	SQ22-000636	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Events to support staff interaction following the machinery of government change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have any events or activities been organised to support staff interaction following the machinery of government change? Please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Date of each event/activity</li> <li>b. Nature of the event/activity?</li> <li>c. The name of the provider</li> <li>d. Cost of each event/activity</li> <li>e. How many employees participated</li> <li>f. Any feedback provided following the event/activity</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written
119	SQ22-000637	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Learning and development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have any new professional development sessions/courses been added to Department's learning and development program since the election?</li> <li>2. Please include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The name and a description of each session/course</li> <li>b. The provider of each session/course</li> <li>c. The cost of providing each session/course</li> <li>d. How many employees have participated in each session/course</li> <li>e. Any feedback provided about the session/course</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Please provide the following information about professional development sessions/course offered by the Department. Please include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The name and a description of each session/course</li> <li>b. The provider of each session/course</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written
120	SQ22-000638	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Car park allocations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many car park spaces are provided to employees as part of their salary package? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Please provide the number of car parks per location.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written
121	SQ22-000639	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Department social facilities	Does the Department provide a bar or a social space for employees to interact?	Written

122	SQ22-000640	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Social event subsidies	Does the Department subsidise activities or events to encourage staff interaction?	Written
123	SQ22-000641	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Alcohol subsidies	Does the Department subsidise the cost of alcohol for staff? If so, how much has been spent since the election.	Written
124	SQ22-000642	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	International travel	1. Please provide a list of all international trips undertaken by staff since the election. Please include: a. Date of travel b. Nights overseas c. Reason for travel d. Cost of each trip e. Number of staff on each trip and APS level	Written
125	SQ22-000643	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Ministerial international travel	1. Please provide the final travel program for each ministerial overseas visit (as provided to the office). 2. Please provide a breakdown of each overseas ministerial visit. Please include: a. The date of departure b. Nights overseas c. The number of advisers that accompanied the Minister d. The position of each adviser e. Whether the Minister's partner attended any events or meetings during the visit f. The names and positions of departmental officials who accompanied the minister g. The total cost of the trip	Written
126	SQ22-000644	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	New leased or purchased premises	1. Has the Department purchased or leased any new premises following the machinery of government change? Please provide: a. the address for each new premises b. square footage c. the number of staff each premises can accommodate and d. the number of staff currently working there full time	Written

127	SQ22-000645	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Budget savings measures	<p>1. Please provide a line-by-line breakdown of all savings measures in the 2022-23 Budget. Please include:</p> <p>a. the previous and revised funding profile for each measure; and</p> <p>b. savings measures of all portfolio entities</p> <p>2. Please provide the funding profile for new measures announced in the 2022-23 Budget.</p>	Written
128	SQ22-000646	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	\$275.7 million in additional resourcing	<p>1. Please provide a line-by-line breakdown of the \$275.7 million in additional resourcing that will be provided to the Department. Please provide:</p> <p>a. The name of the section within the department and the amount of additional resourcing that will be provided</p> <p>b. How much of it will be allocated to advertising or communications</p> <p>c. The number of additional ASL the Department expects to hire over the next four years</p>	Written
129	SQ22-000647	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Market research	<p>1. Has the department carried out any market research or testing since the election? If so, please provide:</p> <p>a. The name of the agency that carried out the market research or testing</p> <p>b. The amount budgeted and the amount spent to date</p> <p>c. A description of the work undertaken by the agency</p> <p>d. Who approved the contract in the department</p>	Written
130	SQ22-000648	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Hollie Hughes	Percentage of staff in the office	<p>1. What percentage of staff are back to working full-time in the office?</p> <p>a. Please provide the percentage for each portfolio agency.</p>	Written
131	SQ22-000660	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Wombat Mange	<p>1. A \$178,000 grant was provided to the University of Tasmania in 2021 for 'Developing feasible in situ control of mange disease in wombats'. Is the Department able to provide an update on the progress of research into wombat mange?</p> <p>2. What work is the Department undertaking with state and territory governments in relation to wombat mange?</p> <p>3. How widespread is wombat mange estimated to be (a breakdown by state &amp; territory would be useful if at all possible)?</p> <p>4. How much money has the Commonwealth money provided in respect of research or management of wombat mange in the past 10 years?</p>	Written

132	SQ22-000662	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Whales	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please list supported projects or research (i.e. funded through the department) that have monitored whale numbers and migration in Australian waters in the last 10 years.</li> <li>2. Has the Department (including past iterations of environment) ever commissioned IMAS to undertake observational work of whale numbers and migration in the past 10 years?</li> </ol>	Written
133	SQ22-000671	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Waste Management Subsidies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much money from the CEFC, ARENA and the Recycling Modernisation Fund (RMF) and any other federal funding source, has been awarded to waste disposal technologies including waste to energy incineration, waste incineration, Process Engineered Fuel production, Refuse Derived Fuel (or any waste derived fuel), chemical recycling and advanced recycling technologies including pyrolysis, gasification and hydrothermal liquification to produce crude oil in the last 5 years?</li> <li>2. Does the Federal government intend to award funds or subsidies to any waste disposal technologies including waste to energy incineration, waste incineration, Process Engineered Fuel production, Refuse Derived Fuel (or any waste derived fuel) production technologies, chemical recycling and advanced recycling technologies including pyrolysis, gasification and hydrothermal liquification, in this budget?</li> <li>3. What investment will the Federal government be making to support sustainable zero waste management policies in Australia in this budget?</li> </ol>	Written
134	SQ22-000672	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Plastics and Other Waste	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In March this year the UN agreed a mandate for an International Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop a legally binding UN Treaty on plastic pollution. Please provide an update on progress towards this treaty, in the context of the work of the department (including liaison with other departments).</li> <li>2. The National Plastics Plan has set goals for 2022 that includes a phase-out of EPS packaging (June 2022); all claimed compostable packaging to be certified to Australian standards (June 2022); and EPS containers, moulded packaging, and PVC labels to be phased out (December 2022). What progress has been made and have or will these problem plastic goals be achieved?</li> <li>3. A Product Stewardship Scheme for Packaging with mandatory performance targets failed to pass the Parliament in December 2020. At the time the ALP promised to support such a scheme, if in government. APCO have already admitted plastic packaging targets for 2025 will not be met under current voluntary arrangements. Will the government be introducing a scheme, and in time, to ensure that national packaging targets are met in 2025?</li> <li>4. The Commonwealth supports a position that all packaging be either reusable, compostable or recyclable by 2025. This does not mean these packaging items</li> </ol>	Written

					<p>will be recovered. There are no nationally adopted nor binding standards for such packaging that ensure recovery. This opens the door to greenwashing, and false claims that an item labelled as recoverable will, in effect, be recovered in practice. Will the Commonwealth now ensure that credible national standards for packaging are introduced and include that all packaging manufactured under these standards is recovered in practice and at scale, with labels that can then provide genuine veracity and authenticity for consumers?</p> <p>5. What work has been undertaken with the textile industry in relation to reduction of textile waste and managing product stewardship?</p>	
135	SQ22-000673	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Marine Protected Areas - Letter from scientists	<p>On 29th July 2022 a letter was sent to Minister Plibersek from multiple (23) signatories in relation to concerns about marine protected areas and allowable catch limits. Did the Minister respond to the letter, and if so when and is the response publicly available?</p>	Written
136	SQ22-000674	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Great Barrier Reef - Budget	<p>On page 93 (under Australian Institute of Marine Science) of the Portfolio Budget Statement October 2022-23 for DCCEEW states that funding for projects and activities will help Australia achieve:</p> <p>"Environmentally sustainable offshore oil and gas development."</p> <p>1. In the context of anthropogenic climate change, influenced primarily by use of fossil fuels including oil and gas, please explain how oil and gas development (offshore or otherwise) is "environmentally sustainable" in delivering net-zero.</p> <p>2. Given that climate change is identified as the primary risk factor for the Great Barrier Reef, please explain how "Environmentally sustainable offshore oil and gas development" contributes to the safety of the Reef in the context of oil and gas contributing to climate change.</p>	Written
137	SQ22-000675	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	EPBC Act - removal of nuclear moratorium	<p>1. Has Minister Plibersek or her office had any conversations with the Department on the potential removal of the nuclear moratorium from the EPBC Act?</p> <p>2. More specifically, has Ms Plibersek sought any advice from the Department around the abolition of that moratorium? If so, on what date(s) did she seek that advice and on what date(s) was it provided to her?</p>	Written
138	SQ22-000676	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Peter Whish-Wilson	Boundary Adjustment	<p>On 13th September 2022 DCCEEW issued its response to a request for correspondence regarding boundary adjustment for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (#27484).</p> <p>1. How did Australia's response to UNSECO of 14 April address any of the five specific requests in the Annex from UNESCO?</p>	Written

		Environment and Water			<p>2. Has there been any follow-up correspondence (either from UNESCO or further correspondence from Australia?) as a result of Australia's response of 14 April 2022?</p> <p>a. If not, will the Australian Government be submitting a formal request to the World Heritage Committee (through the Secretariat) for these boundary modifications in accordance with the requirements of the WH 'Operational Guidelines'?</p> <p>3. Have there been any other modifications made to the boundaries of Australian WH properties since those properties were inscribed on the WH List?</p>	
139	SQ22-000677	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Funding to the Environmental Defenders' Office and Environmental Justice Australia	<p>1. When defending the awarding of \$9.8 million of funding in the Budget to Environmental Justice Australia and the Environmental Defenders Office, Ms McAllister said at the Estimates hearing of 28 October 2022 that "an important feature of our legal system is that all citizens may have access to justice, and meaningful access to justice requires legal representation, and legal representation can be costly".</p> <p>(a) How was the amount of \$9.8 million determined? Was it a figure for which the two organisations themselves specifically lobbied – or was it calculated in another way?</p> <p>(b) Has the Albanese Government allocated any funding to any organisations providing legal services to companies and/or project proponents whose proposals have been the subject of assessments under the EPBC Act? If so, to what organisations, on what dates, and how much funding has been provided in each case? If not, why not?</p> <p>2. Will Minister Plibersek confirm that this \$9.8 million in funding announced in the Budget will only be used for ensuring what she described to Sky News on 27 October 2022 as ensuring that everyone in Australia has a "right to the same level of (legal) justice (and that) it's the same reason we fund legal aid"?</p> <p>(An online Sky News article containing these comments is at: <a href="https://www.skynews.com.au/australia-news/politics/supporting-green-activists-coalition-hits-out-at-tanya-pliberseks-defence-of-98-million-budget-funding-for-climate-groups/news-story/48779f25d577d2503309a14053d2f466">https://www.skynews.com.au/australia-news/politics/supporting-green-activists-coalition-hits-out-at-tanya-pliberseks-defence-of-98-million-budget-funding-for-climate-groups/news-story/48779f25d577d2503309a14053d2f466</a> .)</p> <p>3. Please table a copy of funding agreements entered into relating to this announcement.</p>	Written

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|  |  |  |  | <p>4. What safeguards are in place to prevent any of this funding being used for radical environmental protests and demonstrations, including of the kind that have often disrupted traffic in major cities in Australia in recent years?</p> <p>5. What processes are available to the Government if this funding is not used in accordance with the Minister's stated objectives?</p> <p>6. Can funding be taken back by the Government if a breach occurs or at the request of the Minister?</p> <p>7. If no funding agreement has been finally developed and executed, what is the Government's intention?</p> <p>8. Will the Government expressly exclude certain activist or advocacy activities from the list of supported or permitted activities under the funding agreement?</p> <p>9. On 4 November 2022, it became clear that Minister Plibersek had agreed to the advocacy of Environmental Justice Australia (on behalf of the Environment Council of Central Queensland) to instigate new reviews of 18 coal and gas projects already-Ministerially-assessed under the EPBC Act. Prior to this date, when was the most recent occasion that any Federal Environment Minister decided to invoke a Section 78 review of a previous EPBC Act approval of a project?</p> <p>10. Prior to 4 November 2022, when was the most recent occasion that any Federal Environment Minister decided to review the previous EPBC Act assessment of a project, purely on the basis of its general potential impact in relation to climate change?</p> <p>11. Environmental Justice Australia's original statements indicate they were seeking to subject 19 coal and gas projects to new reviews. It now seems that 18 projects are the subject of these reviews rather than 19. So which was the additional project that was not selected for review, and for what reason(s) was the request for a review rejected in its case?</p> <p>12. Did the Government seek to test the validity and accuracy of the information submitted in Environmental Justice Australia's documentation – and, if so, how was this done?</p> |  |
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					<p>13. Please list which parts of Environmental Justice Australia's documentation address environmental and developmental components specific and unique to each and every one of the 18 projects, and which elements of each of the 18 projects are alleged to directly conflict with the EPBC Act and how.</p> <p>14. Was the decision to instigate the review of the 18 projects made solely by Minister Plibersek, or were other Ministers involved in making the decision? If others were involved, which Ministers were they?</p> <p>15. Was the decision to instigate the reviews of the 18 projects the subject of discussion at Cabinet? If so, at the Cabinet meeting(s) of which date(s) was this matter discussed?</p> <p>16. Is the Government aware of the total cost – and the cost to each of them individually – that will be caused to the businesses concerned by the necessity to undergo this review process? If so, what are those costs? If not, why is the Government unaware of this?</p> <p>17. How many direct and indirect jobs are due to be created by each of these projects?</p> <p>18. In each of the 18 cases, what is the overall financial benefit to the Australian economy that would be created by these projects?</p> <p>19. How much coal or gas would be produced in each of the 18 projects respectively – and what would the current value of this product be in each case?</p> <p>20. If allowed to proceed, what value of royalties and taxes would be collected by each of these projects respectively at current market prices?</p> <p>21. Has the Government sought legal advice about the potential for counter-actions from the companies concerned, including the pursuit of compensation for further delays to, and/or cessation of, these projects? If so, when was this legal advice sought and from whom?</p>	
140	SQ22-000679	Department of Climate Change,	Jonathon Duniam	Government's 30 by 30 land target	1. At the Estimates hearing of 28 October 2022, senior officials from the Department said that approximately 22% of Australia's land mass is currently reserved. What is the full breakdown of the areas of land that constitute this	Written

		Energy, the Environment and Water			<p>22%?</p> <p>2. Prior to her National Press Club speech of 19 July, on how many occasions – and on what dates – did Minister Plibersek ask for a briefing and/or for written advice from the Department on the practicality and/or the cost of fulfilling a 30 by 30 land target in Australia?</p> <p>3. Has the Department specifically quantified the differing impacts on regional and rural Australia of the full realisation of a 30 by 30 land policy – and, if so, what are they?</p> <p>4. If this target was to be realised, then it would need to be accompanied by major reforms in relation to the future public management of this re-claimed land. Accordingly, what work, specifically, has been undertaken by the Government and/or the Department on those issues – and what will those reforms be?</p> <p>5. Has the Environment Department (in any of its various forms over time) ever advised a Federal Environment Minister that a 30 by 30 land target for Australia is not practically achievable or feasible?</p>	
141	SQ22-000680	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Great Barrier Reef Foundation	<p>On January 7th 2022, presumably in reference to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, the Prime Minister Albanese, then in opposition, tweeted "And we'll terminate the Morrison Government's dodgy half a billion-dollar deal to a private foundation &amp; allocate the funds to make sure every \$ is being spent on protecting the Reef."</p> <p>On 14th September 2022 the Australian Financial Review reported: "While Labor railed against the donation at the time, vowing to scrap it if the ALP won office at the 2019 election, the Albanese government is unlikely to do so now that most of the money has been allocated to projects. There is only \$50 million left to be allocated, despite two years left on the four-year agreement."</p> <p>1. Has the government terminated the "deal" to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation?</p> <p>2. What is the status of the "deal" with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation?</p> <p>3. How much money has been recouped from the Foundation under the current government and reallocated to expenditure on the Reef?</p> <p>Page 63 of the Budget October 2022-23 Budget Measures (Paper No. 2) includes the following provision:</p> <p>"\$5.2 million from the partial reversal of the 2018–19 Budget measure titled</p>	Written

					<p>Great Barrier Reef 2050 Partnership Program to meet the Government's election commitment."</p> <p>4. Is this \$5.2 million being removed directly from the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, or is it part of a package of unspent money from the 2018-19 Budget (or some other funding provision)?</p> <p>5. The Auditor-General Report No.35 of 2020-21 found that \$285.7m of Australian Government grant funding was still to be spent. What is the current status of the remaining grant funding?</p> <p>6. The Report made 7 recommendations, jointly or separately agreed to by the Foundation and the Department (then DAWE, but presumably the Environment component of the Department). Please provide an update on the progress made by both parties in regards to these recommendations.</p> <p>7. Do the agreed recommendations made in the Report apply to the operations of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA? If not, what assessment has been made of the ways the Great Barrier Reef Foundation (Australia) might circumnavigate recommendations made in the Report though the USA organisation?</p> <p>8. Has any Commonwealth government money been given to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA? If so, how much and for what purpose?</p> <p>9. How much money has the Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA raised for the Reef Trust Partnership?</p> <p>10. How does the Great Barrier Reef Foundation (Australia) provide details of money passed to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA? If those details are available, how much money has been provided to the GBRF USA, and for what purpose?</p> <p>11. How much money has the Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA provided towards the Reef Trust Partnership (including any projects or activities)?</p> <p>12. What consultation did the Great Barrier Reef Foundation undertake with the Department when creating Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA?</p> <p>13. How is the work of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA reflected in the annual reports of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation (Australia)?</p> <p>14. What is the role of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA in the Reef Trust Partnership?</p>	
142	SQ22-000681	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Jonathon Duniam	Great Barrier Reef funding	<p>1. There is a reference on page 76 of Budget Paper 2 for the 2022-23 Budget (in October) to \$91.8 million in expenditure "over 5 years from 2022-23 to deliver 'shovel ready' Great Barrier Reef projects". Please list each of the components of this \$91.8 million in expenditure, the timeframes for their completion, and the amounts of funding respectively allocated to them.</p>	Written

		Environment and Water			<p>2. With reference to the Government's statement in the October 2022 Budget that it is committing \$1.2 billion to Great Barrier Reef funding, how much of that expenditure is to be spent (a) over the forward estimate years and (b) beyond the forward estimate years?</p> <p>3. What is the annual breakdown of this funding for each year for which it has been allocated?</p> <p>4. How much of an increase in funding, in total, does the Albanese Government's \$1.2 billion in Great Barrier Reef expenditure represent when compared to the amount of funding that had already been committed by the Morrison Government in the Budget delivered in March 2022?</p>	
143	SQ22-000682	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Federal Environment Protection Authority	<p>1. Is the new Federal EPA going to be a new, standalone agency, or a body that will fit within the existing public service architecture?</p> <p>2. As things currently stand: on what date is the EPA scheduled to begin operating?</p> <p>3. On the Department's current projections, what will be the total financial cost of creating the EPA?</p> <p>4. On the Department's current projections, what is the likely annual cost of running the EPA?</p> <p>5. On the Department's current planning, approximately how many employees will staff the EPA?</p> <p>6. Will the EPA still revolve around a compliance and assurance division and an environmental data, information and analysis division – or has that model changed?</p> <p>7. By what metrics or other specific outcomes does the Government intend to measure the success of the new EPA?</p> <p>8. Has each State and Territory Government been formally consulted on an individual basis, and in detail, on the creation of the Federal EPA?</p>	Written

					<p>9. How will the EPA's role will be distinguished from those already operating in the States and territories? Every State and Territory except Queensland already essentially has such a body, so what will this body be doing that will be distinct and different from what those bodies already do across Australia?</p> <p>10. Is the structure and/or operation of this EPA going to be modelled on that of any other EPA across the world – and, if so, which one or ones?</p> <p>11. What specific limitations and safeguards will be placed on this body to prevent it from potentially encroaching on the responsibilities of elected politicians and officials, including the Federal Environment Minister?</p>	
144	SQ22-000684	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	EPBC Act decision-making	<p>1. How many EPBC Act assessments has Ms Plibersek made on coal projects as Minister, to date? And how many coal projects has she approved and rejected, respectively?</p> <p>2. How many EPBC assessments has Ms Plibersek made on gas projects as Minister, to date? And how many gas projects has she approved and rejected, respectively?</p> <p>3. How many EPBC Act assessments on coal projects are currently awaiting a decision from Ms Plibersek?</p> <p>4. How many EPBC Act assessments on gas projects are currently awaiting a decision from Ms Plibersek?</p> <p>5. In her various EPBC Act determinations to date, has Minister Plibersek exceeded the Act's timelines at any point – and, if so, on how many occasions has this happened?</p> <p>6. Has Minister Plibersek been involved (or will she be involved) in any deliberations on the Queensland pumped hydro development in the Pioneer Valley near Mackay that was publicly announced by the State Government on 28 September 2022? If so, when and how?</p> <p>7. Given that construction of that pumped hydro scheme appears to constitute a major threat to multiple species (including a species of incredibly rare Day Frog and Honeyeater Bird, that are unique to the Eungella region), will the Minister be</p>	Written

					legally required to assess this development and to potentially stop it from proceeding or not?	
145	SQ22-000687	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Recycling Modernisation Fund	<p>1. Minister Plibersek told the House of Representatives on 9 November 2022 that the Government has "set aside \$60 million for hard-to-recycle plastics specifically". What is the breakdown of this spending across the forward estimates – and on what page(s) of the Budget papers from October 2022 is this funding listed?</p> <p>2. What is the latest total co-funding dollar figure across Australia through the Recycling Modernisation Fund – broken down by each State's and Territory's amount of co-funding respectively?</p> <p>3. How many RMF projects in total have been approved – and what are the specific breakdowns of those numbers, by State and Territory?</p> <p>4. How much funding, in total, has been committed, and spent, respectively through the RMF Program – and what are the specific breakdowns of those numbers, by State and Territory?</p> <p>5. What are the reasons that there have apparently been many months of delays under the Albanese Government in the finalisation of project application assessments and approvals in Queensland and the Northern Territory?</p> <p>6. How many applications, in total, have been received for RMF funding in each of Queensland and the Northern Territory?</p> <p>7. How many applications, in total, have been rejected for RMF funding in each of Queensland and the Northern Territory?</p> <p>8. Has there been any RMF applicant who has advised that they have since made a decision to either withdraw their application – or to proceed anyway with their project – during the time in which they have been awaiting a decision on their application? If so, how many such cases have there been?</p> <p>9. Has any RMF grant been approved for any applicant who had actually already proceeded with some or all of the work in the meantime? How many such approvals have there been?</p>	Written

					<p>10. Has there been regular and ongoing contact from the Minister, her office and/or the Department with these enterprises in order to keep them informed on a regular basis what was happening in each of their cases?</p> <p>11. Have there ever been any gaps of multiple months in them hearing from the Minister, her office and/or the Department?</p>	
146	SQ22-000690	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Agriculture Stewardship Package	<p>1. Can DCCEEW confirm the 2022-23 March Budget measure Voluntary Biodiversity Stewardship Program – better information and methods for monitoring and assessment of biodiversity benefits – is still being delivered? If so, outline the amount, profiling and timeframes.</p> <p>2. Can DCCEEW confirm the 2022-23 Budget measure Voluntary Biodiversity Stewardship Program – enhanced Natural Resource management Group Support is still being delivered? If so, outline the amount, profiling and timeframes.</p> <p>3. Can the DCCEEW indicate how many farmers contracts have been executed under the Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot Round 1 and the Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot Round 2? Are there any negotiations with farmers remaining?</p> <p>4. Can the DCCEEW provide an update on the contracts that have been executed under the Enhancing Remnant Vegetation Pilot? Are there any negotiations with farmers remaining?</p> <p>5. Can the DCCEEW provide an update on the expenditure and milestones for the National Stewardship Trading Platform?</p> <p>6. Can the DCCEEW provide an update on expenditure and milestones for the Australian farm biodiversity certification scheme?</p> <p>7. Can the DCCEEW provide an update on expenditure and milestones for the Compliance and enforcement regime for biodiversity markets (MYEFO 2021) measure? Is this funding being used to develop the legislation to underpin a market for biodiversity (announced by the Prime Minister on 26 August 2022)? Have any protocols been developed that will underpin the legislation?</p> <p>8. Is the legislation to underpin a market for biodiversity announced by the Prime Minister being based on the Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Market Bill</p>	Written

					<p>2022 introduced by the former Coalition Government? If there are differences, what are the differences?</p> <p>9. What is the timeframe for the introduction of the Bill announced by the Prime Minister in August 2022?</p> <p>10. In the October 2022 Budget, there is a measure for \$20.3 million over 4 years from 2022-23 to establish an outreach program to empower Australian farmers and land managers, including First Nations peoples, to participate in carbon markets and integrate low emission technologies and practices – part of the savings in March 2022-23 Budget measure titled Energy and Emissions Reduction page 57 BP2. Is this related to the March 2022-23 Budget measure enhanced natural resource management group support?</p>	
147	SQ22-000691	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Environmental impacts - new homes policy	<p>1. What has been the nature of the interactions between Treasury and DCCEEW (and any other relevant Departments) on Minister Collins' policies around increasing public housing in Australia and, more specifically, creating 1,000,000 new homes – including through new housing developments?</p> <p>2. Have officials from DCCEEW specifically with officials from Treasury to discuss the environmental impact of these policies, including potentially on further clearing of native habitat – and, if so, (a) what have been the dates of those meetings and (b) who were each of the attendees at these meetings?</p> <p>3. Has the Department conducted any work on assessing the past and current impact of new housing developments on habitat destruction – especially in States like Queensland – and what does that work indicate?</p>	Written
148	SQ22-000695	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Pre-logging surveys	<p>1. How many letters have been received by the Minister's office and the Department from members of the Byron Greens relating to the reinstatement of the requirement to complete pre-logging surveys into any or all of the Regional Forestry Agreements for New South Wales?</p> <p>2. Has the Minister made a decision with regard to this request?</p> <p>3. If such a request is under consideration by the Government, what consultation with industry is occurring in relation to it?</p>	Written
149	SQ22-000700	Department of Climate Change,	David Pocock	RSV Nuyina	<p>1. What periods has Australia's Antarctic icebreaker, the RSV Nuyinas spent being repaired since 28 September 2018?</p> <p>2. What are the nature of those repairs?</p>	Written

		Energy, the Environment and Water			<p>3. When do you expect it to be back in full service?</p> <p>4. What are the expected costs of these repairs?</p> <p>5. Will these costs be borne under some form of warranty by the builder, or by the taxpayer through the Australian Antarctic Division?</p> <p>6. What are the impacts of this situation on Australia's Antarctic efforts, especially on the scientific program? What provision has been made for scientists and students who had been scheduled to use the world class on-board laboratories on the Nuyina during this summer season?</p>	
150	SQ22-000703	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Invasive species	<p>1. What is the total current funding specifically for management of invasive species under the environment portfolio?</p> <p>2. Where does the funding go?</p> <p>3. What strategies are in place for management of invasive species? Where do those strategies sit within the department?</p> <p>4. What additional funding for management of invasive species was in the budget?</p> <p>5. I read that in the environment ministers communique there is work planned for to coordinate with the states on invasive species. What is being planned to that end?</p> <p>6. The communique also referred to uptake of technologies for the control of feral cats. What funding been allocated to that program in particular?</p> <p>7. Please provide any advice given to the government in relation to the funding, defunding, application for funding and/or extending the existence of the Threatened Species Recovery Hub over the period January 2020 to December 2021.</p>	Written
151	SQ22-000781	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Copper, Chrome and Arsenic	<p>1. How much CCA is currently being illegally burnt as a means of 'cheap disposal'?</p> <p>2. To what extent is the contamination of green waste streams with CCA preventing the adoption of biomass to energy (emissions reduction) and biomass to biochar (carbon sequestration).</p>	Written
152	SQ22-000665	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Total appropriations - Environment portfolio	<p>1. What was the amount of the Federal Government's total appropriations to the Environment portfolio in the following Budgets:</p> <p>a. 2013-14?</p> <p>b. 2022-23 (March)?</p>	Written
153	SQ22-000668	Department of Climate	Jonathon Duniam	Staffing data	<p>1. What was the total number of ongoing employees in the Environment component of the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment as at the</p>	Written

		Change, Energy, the Environment and Water			<p>date of the Federal election (21 May 2022) this year?</p> <p>2. What was the total number of ongoing employees in the Environment component of the Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities as at the date of the 2013 Federal election (7 September 2013)?</p> <p>3. What is the current total number of ongoing employees in the Environment component of the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water?</p> <p>4. How many staff in the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water are employed, either in full or in part, in media, communications, marketing and public affairs roles?</p> <p>5. How many staff are currently employed in Internal Audit roles in the Department, and how does that compare to the equivalent number immediately before the 2022 Federal election?</p>	
154	SQ22-000669	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Funding measures - 2022-23 Budget October - Budget Paper 2	There is a reference on page 58 of Budget Paper 2 for the 2022-23 Budget (in October) to \$275.7 million in expenditure "over 4 years from 2022-23 (and \$60.5 million per year ongoing) to support establishing a strong Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water". Please list all specific measures to which this funding is currently devoted.	Written
155	SQ22-000670	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Total funding breakdown	<p>1. Can the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water provide details of the total funding breakdown over the forward estimates for each activity or program under the Agriculture Stewardship Package that was transferred from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and/or the previous Department administering the Energy and Emissions Reduction Fund? (This includes funding under the Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot, Trading Platform, Enhancing the Remnant Vegetation Pilot and Implementing an Australian farm biodiversity certification scheme.)</p> <p>a. Can the DCCEEW provide details of funds, activities and expenditure against each funding breakdown?</p> <p>2. Can the DCCEEW provide details of the total funding, funding breakdown over the forward estimates for each activity under the compliance and enforcement regime for biodiversity markets received from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry? b. How much of this funding has been spent and on what activities?</p>	Written
156	SQ22-000217	Clean Energy Regulator	Jonathon Duniam	Clean Energy Regulator funding	1. Can the Clean Energy Regulator (CER) confirm the funding allocated in the March 2022-23 Budget, including the funding profiles and activities, to develop and administer the Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Market Bill 2022?	Written

					<p>2. Can the CER confirm if there were any funding changes in the October 2022-23 Budget? If so, detail the amounts, funding profiles and activities that will not be completed due to the changes?</p> <p>3. Can the CER outline the activities undertaken from the funding provided from the Agriculture Stewardship Market Bill 2022?</p>	
157	SQ22-000225	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Lidia Thorpe	Implementation of a First Nations Clean Energy Strategy	<p>1. What does the government mean by co-design? Will First Nations groups have decision-making powers to self-determine their own aspirations around clean energy initiatives?</p> <p>2. What will be the objectives of developing this strategy?</p> <p>The transition to clean energy presents significant opportunities for First Nations, and I welcome this investment in a First Nations Clean Energy Strategy. I would like to point out the Commonwealth, states and territories (with the exception of the ACT) all have hydrogen strategies or plans in place and there are currently more than 100 projects worth \$163 billion under development.</p> <p>3. Is your government considering a commitment to resourcing and developing First Nations capacity in relation to participation in the hydrogen economy?</p> <p>Australia endorsed the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in 2009. The declaration asserts that nation-states have a duty to consult with Indigenous peoples on the basis of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).</p> <p>4. How will you ensure First Nations peoples are able to provide Free, Prior and Informed Consent regarding large scale renewable energy developments on their lands? How will you ensure that local First Nations peoples will benefit from these developments, including financially as well as accessing clean, reliable and affordable energy?</p>	Written
158	SQ22-000661	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	State of the Environment consultation with GBRMPA	<p>1. Did any of the authors of the State of the Environment Report that was released in July this year contact and/or meet with you about your work in surveying and assessing the Reef? If 'yes', on what date(s) did this contact and/or meeting(s) occur – and what form(s) did this take? If 'no', what were the reasons that this contact did not occur?</p>	Written
159	SQ22-000663	Department of Climate	Jonathon Duniam	Long-Term Monitoring Program report	<p>1. In August this year, AIMS released the latest version of its Long-Term Monitoring Program report. Across the entire history of that study: what is the</p>	Written

		Change, Energy, the Environment and Water			<p>date (or period) at which the Great Barrier Reef's coral cover reached its lowest level?</p> <p>2. In the 2012-13 version of the study, what was the percentage of coral cover across:</p> <p>(a) the Reef overall?</p> <p>(b) the northern Great Barrier Reef?</p> <p>(c) the central Great Barrier Reef?</p> <p>(d) the southern Great Barrier Reef?</p> <p>3. On what date(s) has Minister Plibersek personally met with, and/or spoken to, the AIMS Long-Term Monitoring Program team about the findings of the 2022 edition of the study?</p> <p>4. Since becoming the Minister for the Environment, has Ms Plibersek made any media statements and/or conducted any media interviews on the 2022 AIMS Long-Term Monitoring Program report? If so, in which media and on what dates respectively?</p> <p>5. On what date will (or did) work start on the next edition of the AIMS Long-Term Monitoring Program report?</p> <p>6. Will the work on the next edition of the AIMS Long-Term Monitoring Program report be conducted in the same way as it was for the most recent edition? Or is there any possibility that the type and the methodology of the research will be changed in any way?</p> <p>7. If Ms Plibersek hasn't commented at all about the AIMS Long-Term Monitoring Program report, has anyone informed AIMS as to why that would be the case? And, if so, who provided this information to AIMS and when?</p> <p>8. On what date did, or will, work commence on the next edition of this study?</p> <p>9. Will the work on the next edition of this study be undertaken in the same manner again – or is there any possibility the type and the methodology of the research will be changed?</p> <p>10. If there are going to be any changes to the nature and/or the methodology of the research, what are they?</p>	
160	SQ22-000664	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	State of the Environment - consultation with AIMS	<p>1. Did any of the authors of the State of the Environment Report that was publicly released in July 2022 contact and/or meet with the relevant AIMS staff about the Institute's work in surveying and assessing the Reef?</p> <p>If 'yes', on what date(s) did this contact and/or meeting(s) occur – and what form(s) did this take?</p> <p>If 'no', do the relevant AIMS staff know what the reasons were that this contact did not occur?</p>	Written

161	SQ22-000666	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Bureau of Meteorology senior management meetings with the Minister and/or Minister's Office	1. On what dates since she became Minister for the Environment have senior BOM management met with Ms Plibersek and/or her staff either face to face or in a virtual format? For each date, please list each of the meeting attendees.	Written
162	SQ22-000667	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Bureau of Meteorology rebrand	<p>1. Some staff at the BOM have told various members of the media that, in the days on and after 18 October, senior executives including Dr Johnson were telling people internally that the Minister's office was happy with the explanations they had been given by the Executive about the rebranding/refresh exercise. Yet Ms Plibersek was projecting an impression publicly that she wasn't happy and 'didn't quite understand' what had happened. Given that they can't both be right, which of those two versions of events is correct?</p> <p>2. The CPSU wrote a letter to Dr Johnson on 20 October 2022 that made clear that a number of BOM staff are upset and demoralised by a rebranding/refresh exercise that they regard as a debacle. In a part of that letter, it says: "due to extreme stress and poor support, this process has put staff at psychosocial risk".</p> <p>(a) Does the senior management team concede that a significant number of staff are feeling that way as a result of the rebranding/refresh process?</p> <p>(b) Does the senior management team concede that the fact that this process became a massive media story, particularly amid severe flooding events across Australia, further exacerbated the disillusionment and grievances of some staff?</p> <p>(c) Does the senior management team concede that Minister Plibersek's running media commentary on the issue for three days (until the point that she finally admitted on 21 October to ABC Radio National's Patricia Karvelas that "I am a little bit concerned ... now ... I don't want [the BOM] distracted by this continuing as an area of focus for them ... we can probably let them get on with it now") was also unhelpful to some staff?</p> <p>3. At the Senate Estimates hearing of 28 October 2022, Dr Johnson stated on a number of occasions that the BOM had not engaged in "rebranding". Yet Rick Morton, Senior Reporter for The Saturday Paper, posted a screenshot on his Twitter account on 31 October 2022 that reveals that General Manager of Communications at the BOM, Emma Liepa, was still very specifically referring to the exercise – even after Senate Estimates – as a "re-brand". Why are these two sets of communications from Dr Johnson or Ms Liepa so completely at odds with one another?</p> <p>4. On 1 November 2022, Mr Morton also tweeted another screenshot from the agency's intranet site that clearly portrays that the exercise has long been</p>	Written

					regarded and described internally as a rebrand. Why did Dr Johnson's evidence at the Estimates hearing diverge so markedly from the BOM's own, multiple, internal messages to its own staff?	
163	SQ22-000683	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	Peter Whish-Wilson	Great Barrier Reef Foundation - meetings	How many meetings has GBRMPA had with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation USA in attendance?	Written
164	SQ22-000685	Australian Institute of Marine Science	Peter Whish-Wilson	Reefworks	During Estimates on 28th October 2022, Mr Mead stated: "We don't have a formal partnership with Defence yet on Reefworks." 1. Is AIMS working to develop a formal partnership with Defence on Reefworks? 2. If there is not a formal partnership, how is the informal partnership defined?	Written
165	SQ22-000686	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Indigenous Advisory Committee	1. On what dates in 2022 has the Indigenous Advisory Committee on the EPBC Act held face to face meetings? 2. For what dates are any future meetings scheduled? 3. What are the names of the current members of this committee – and on what dates they were each appointed to this committee? For each member appointed after 21 May 2022, please indicate their formal qualifications for a position on this committee. 4. (a) Why – by as late as the end of October 2022 – was there still an invitation on the relevant page of the Department's website for people to submit an expression of interest for a position on the Indigenous Advisory Committee as part of a process that had closed months ago? (b) Was that EoI process completed – and, if so, what were the outcomes? (c) Since Ms Plibersek became Environment Minister, how regularly (if at all) has the committee been directly dealing with her?	Written
166	SQ22-000688	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Blue Carbon projects	On 30 June 2022 it was reported that the Government announced funding of \$9.5 million for Blue Carbon projects. 1. How were these projects chosen? 2. What application process was followed for these projects? 3. Who formed the selection panel? 4. Can a list of selection criteria be tabled? 5. Have funding deeds been executed (and please specify the status of each project)?	Written
167	SQ22-000692	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Jonathon Duniam	Regional environmental protection plans	1. What specific work has been undertaken by DCCEEW on its own and/or in collaboration with other Departments or organisations on improving regional planning? 2. Since mid-2022, how has the Department been specifically making – or encouraging other relevant organisations to make – changes to the way in which	Written

		Environment and Water			<p>environmental data is collected and/or used?</p> <p>3. In the Budget of March 2022, the then Coalition Federal Government allocated \$128.5 million to 10 regional environmental protection plans. These plans enabled the reform of environmental law including through regional planning, modernised offsets policy and the provision of clearer information. Since the Federal election in May, have there been any changes to these plans and the \$128.5 million in funding – and what have these changes been? If the funding has been redirected, please indicate how it has been redirected including through a full annual breakdown of what was already spent and the amounts of the redirections.</p> <p>4. Across the time that Labor has been in office, how much of the \$128.5 million has been allocated and/or spent – and on what?</p> <p>5. How much (if any) funding is still available in the Budget to be spent on these plans?</p>	
168	SQ22-000694	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	State of the Environment Report	<p>1. Did the recent Federal State of the Environment Report either impliedly or expressly call for or recommend the restoration of Lake Pedder?</p> <p>2. Is it the understanding of the Department that the World Heritage Committee believes that Lake Pedder ought be restored?</p> <p>3. What work has the Government undertaken to assess any such recommendation that may be included in the report?</p> <p>4. The State of the Environment Report says that the management of invasive species is "a huge challenge that is currently beyond the resources available". But the Invasive Species Council disagrees with that assessment, for a number of reasons – and says that the Albanese Government, and State, Territory and local governments need to work together with the existing resources, and show collective will in order to make successful invasive species management commonplace. Which of those two competing positions and philosophies does Minister Plibersek believe is correct?</p>	Written
169	SQ22-000704	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Almonds	<p>ABARES found that, while buybacks may have increased water prices, so too has the expansion of almonds and that 'seasonal conditions are still the dominant driver of prices, particularly in dry years'.</p> <p>In the state of the environment report- inland rivers there is a case study on almonds. It shows there has been a 900% rise in almonds in less than 20 years. It states "the fact that much of this expansion has occurred in a short time, particularly within the highly compromised Murray–Darling Basin, invites questions about the water needs of almonds and the role of this crop in the multiple pressures on inland water and the environment in Australia more widely"</p>	Written

					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is this something the department is concerned about?</li> <li>2. What type of licences are most of these almond plantations on? - interesting to see if temp market or proper licences.</li> </ol>	
170	SQ22-000705	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Off-Farm Projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nap Nap Station has been given \$2.4m to recover 140ML of water, is this correct?</li> <li>2. Nap Nap only sought to recover 130ML of water at a cost of \$1.97m. Why has it been given more money?</li> <li>3. How much of the recovered water does Nap Nap Station get to retain of the 140ML?</li> <li>4. The Lower Murray project costs \$37.9m to recover 1.8GL of water. This is more than \$21,000 a ML. Does the department consider this value for money?</li> <li>5. When buybacks have been utilised in the past, what was the average price per ML paid for the water?</li> </ol>	Written
171	SQ22-000707	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Water recovery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much of the 450GL of water does the department expect to recover by 2024?</li> <li>2. How much of the 605GL (SDLAM projects) does the department expect to recovered by 2024?</li> <li>3. Of the 3200GL (of equivalent water) how much does the department expect to recover by 2024?</li> <li>4. What processes are in place when we don't hit the required volume of water recovery?</li> <li>5. How will the \$22.9 million to update the science to ensure the impacts of climate change are accounted for in managing the MDB water resources be spent? Especially considering the basin plan does not account for Climate change.</li> </ol>	Written
172	SQ22-000708	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Royal Commission report into the Murray Darling Basin Plan	<p>In his Royal Commission report into the Murray Darling Basin Plan, Commissioner Bret Walker SC found that in determining the Basin-wide ESLT, the MDBA failed to act on the best available scientific knowledge in a number of respects, in breach of the Water Act. Without canvassing all of them, he found that the MDBA ignored climate change projections for the determination of the ESLT and the setting of a Basin-wide SDL that reflects this. This was despite strongly worded advice from the CSIRO that climate change projections should be incorporated into the modelling for the ESLT. Commissioner Walker found this to be indefensible, and rejected the assertion that climate change projections could not be incorporated into the modelling because they were too uncertain.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What steps if any is the MDBA taking to now incorporate climate change projections into the modelling for any redetermination of the ESLT for when the Plan is reviewed in 2026?</li> </ol>	Written

					<p>Mr Walker also made criticisms of the SDL adjustment mechanism and ecological elements scoring method in the Basin Plan. The supply measures associated with this, many of which appear unlikely to be complete by June 2024, have relieved the Commonwealth from having to recover at least 543GL as part of the 2750GL original ESLT recovery amount. Commissioner Walker said this whole scheme was likely unlawful and represented a highly uncertain experiment with the environment of the Basin, and is not consistent with the Water Act. He made reference to reports where scientists described this scheme as having "substantial error space", of being 'novel and untried',<sup>53</sup> 'without precedent',<sup>54</sup> and that 'no one should assume that the adoption of the [method] is without significant uncertainty or risk'. He described at least one measure proposed as having more in common with pseudoscience than actual science.</p> <p>In light of Commissioner Walker's findings and criticisms of the supply measure adjustment of the Basin Plan,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. What level of confidence does the Government have in its scientific reliability and credibility?</li> <li>3. Shouldn't the government appoint a truly independent panel of relevant experts to consider the science behind the supply measure adjustment, and whether the asserted equivalency of 543GL of water has any credibility?</li> </ol>	
173	SQ22-000710	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Urban waterways funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 91.1 M was allocated to the Urban Rivers and Catchment program. What rivers and waterways will be targeted in this program?</li> <li>2. This is the first phase of funding from a \$200m promise. Do you have any indication as to when the rest will be delivered?</li> </ol>	Written
174	SQ22-000711	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Independent EPA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In terms of the design of an independent EPA, Has the department obtained legal advice and / or done policy analysis to determine the key mechanisms and features to ensure that the proposed EPA is truly independent?</li> <li>2. What does the department consider to be the key mechanisms and features to ensure that the proposed EPA is truly independent?</li> </ol>	Written
175	SQ22-000712	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	State of the Environment	<p>Given the State of the Environment Report that was released in July showed climate change and extreme weather events are becoming increasingly important as direct drivers of biodiversity decline, can you advise on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How the impacts of climate change currently considered and addressed under the EPBC Act?</li> <li>2. Is the Department considering, as part of the proposed response to the</li> </ol>	Written

					Samuel review, how to ensure that the impacts of climate change are clearly incorporated and addressed in the EPBC Act?	
176	SQ22-000713	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Critical habitat and land clearing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much vegetation was cleared in the last 5 years, and of this, how much was threatened species habitat?</li> <li>2. How much threatened species habitat intersects with native forest logging?</li> <li>3. How much critical habitat has been registered since the bushfires?</li> <li>4. How many resources, and how much funding, will be devoted to identify and register the critical habitat for threatened species like the greater glider?</li> </ol>	Written
177	SQ22-000714	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Native seed strategy	<p>With regard to Strategy for the Australian native seed sector ('Strategy') published under the Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery program in November 2021:</p> <p>(a) outline the general progress the Government has made in implementing actions and activities from the Strategy?</p> <p>(b) what specific steps has the Government taken to coordinate, harmonise and simplify native seed permits and licensing across Australian jurisdictions?</p> <p>(c) has the Government coordinated steering committee or other cross-jurisdictional group to help implement the Strategy, and if so, which governments and organisations are represented on that body, and if not, what plans, if any, are there to coordinate or create such a group?</p>	Written
178	SQ22-000715	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Lidia Thorpe	S9 and s10 ATSIHPA applications	<p>Please provide the following data in relation to each and every sections 9 and 10 application under ATSIHPA for each State and Territory since the destruction of Juukan Gorge in May 2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The date of the application;</li> <li>2. The location or approximate location of the relevant area of significance for which the application was made;</li> <li>3. The name or description of the relevant area of significance in accordance with First Nations tradition for which the application was made and the name of the applicant;</li> <li>4. What decision, if any, was made by the relevant Minister in relation to each application?</li> <li>5. If there was no decision made by the Minister in relation to the application, what was the reason given?</li> <li>6. Which applications have still not been determined or resolved yet?</li> </ol>	Written
179	SQ22-000716	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Lidia Thorpe	Cultural Heritage Office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the nature and extent of your relationship with the Cultural Heritage office in NIAA?</li> <li>2. How do you think your work with this office could be improved to better protect First Nations heritage in this country?</li> </ol>	Written

		Environment and Water				
180	SQ22-000717	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Conservation Covenant	During the 2022 calendar year, has the Government discussed the possibility of approving a conservation covenanting program (for the purposes of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997) with (a) the Northern Territory or (b) Australian Capital Territory, and what were the nature of those discussions, and if not, why not, and are there plans to progress Federal approval of Territory-based conservation covenant programs?	Written
181	SQ22-000718	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Glasgow Deforestation pledge	Since the 2022 Federal election, what steps have been taken to (a) implement the Australian Government's endorsement of the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, particularly regarding the commitment on "working collectively to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030" within Australia, and (b) to work with States and Territory Governments to end at-scale native vegetation clearing?	Written
182	SQ22-000719	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Lidia Thorpe	Juukan Gorge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can you please provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations of the Juukan Gorge Inquiry? Please include <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. a description of the status of each recommendation,</li> <li>b. work required in order to fulfil their full implementation,</li> <li>c. how the Government plans to progress each of these recommendations,</li> <li>d. what could be done to improve the implementation process.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Can the department please provide a review of how implementing the recommendations from the Juukan inquiry will adhere to the principles of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), and how FPIC will be maintained beyond their implementation?</li> <li>3. Will the government use the small amount of funding allocated in the budget to develop a national heritage register, as called for by witnesses in the Juukan inquiry? If so, can you please provide a timeline for this implementation? And can you please outline how First Nations people will be involved in the development of the register?</li> <li>4. Does your budget commitment include investment into maintenance and preservation of First Nations cultural heritage?</li> <li>5. How will this include 'intangible cultural heritage' (i.e. practices, expressions, knowledge and skills, as well as tangible objects, artefacts and sites/spaces) as recommended by the Juukan Inquiry?</li> <li>6. Can you please provide detail on how this register could be established for the recording and public access of heritage sites, and be continuously expanded and updated based on the advice of Traditional Owners?</li> </ol>	Written

183	SQ22-000720	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	NSW Koalas	<p>A number of groups have expressed concerns about the future of koalas in South West Sydney under the Cumberland Plan Conservation plan that threatens critically endangered habitat for Sydney's last koala populations through extensive clearing for the growth of four urban growth centres from Penrith to Wilton, including the Western Sydney Aerotropolis.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is this plan being considered for accreditation under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act?</li> <li>2. How will the Government be working to ensure this regional plan aligns to the Federal Government's objectives under the Threatened Species Action plan, including ensuring that conservation planning for koalas in this area is contemporary, effective and fit-for-purpose and protect what is considered the last large, expanding and Chlamydia free population in the ACT, NSW and Queensland?</li> <li>3. With plans for major urban development encroaching on koala habitat, will funding be set aside under the Saving Native Species Program to ensure the ongoing recovery and protection of urban koala populations?</li> <li>4. Does this include the currently thriving koala population in South West Sydney (Campbelltown and Appin), the largest recovering Chlamydia free population in NSW?</li> <li>5. Is the Department aware of ongoing land clearing at 479 Whans Road, Llangothlin, New South Wales?</li> <li>6. Is the Department making enquiries into the matter? If not, why?</li> <li>7. Has the Department contacted the landholder in relation to this matter?</li> </ol>	Written
184	SQ22-000721	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Threatened species	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many species are listed as threatened under the EPBC Act? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. How many of these threatened species have existing recovery plans, and how many are waiting on recovery plans?</li> <li>b. How many recovery plans are there that are costed and time-bound?</li> <li>c. How many species are currently listed as endangered and critically endangered - are NOT on the priority list and do not have a costed and time-bound recovery plan?</li> <li>d. If only 40% of Australia's threatened species have a recovery plan, and Conservation Advices do not provide the same level of legislative protection, how will the government ensure that all the &gt; 1700 listed species are adequately protected?</li> <li>e. What species are currently awaiting a decision from the minister for uplisting?</li> <li>f. How many species have been downlisted in threatened species status in the last 10 years?</li> <li>g. How much funding has been allocated to the Threatened Species Scientific</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written

					<p>Committee and Commissioner to fulfil the objecting of zero extinctions?</p> <p>h. Is this enough?</p> <p>i. Is there any funding to help other 'non-priority' threatened species not included in the Threatened Species Action Plan such as our endangered greater glider?</p> <p>2. How much money has been spent on threatened species and has this resulted in recovery of those species?</p> <p>a. Which species did receive funding and what is the plan for species that received no funding?</p> <p>3. How will Indigenous ecological knowledge be incorporated into threatened species recovery plans?</p> <p>a. How will we champion the inclusion of First Nations environmental knowledge into the recovery plans for threatened species?</p> <p>b. What proportion of funds will be directed towards facilitating this process?</p>	
185	SQ22-000722	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Grosvenor coal mine - variations to EPBC approval and missing compliance report	<p>1. In September 2021 the Department varied the EPBC approval for Anglo American's Grosvenor ("Grove-ner") mine. EPBC number 2007/3785. Why did the Department vary that approval?</p> <p>2. Was it in response to a non-compliance?</p> <p>3. When is the 2021 compliance report for that approval due?</p> <p>4. Has the Department received the report?</p> <p>5. Has the Department contacted Anglo American about its failure to make that report public?</p>	Written
186	SQ22-000723	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Lidia Thorpe	World heritage listing of Murujuga	<p>1. How will the funding in the budget for the world heritage listing of Murujuga benefit the Traditional Owners and the protection of this sacred site when the Government refused the section 9 application?</p> <p>2. How will the World Heritage Listing protect Murujuga from the proposed urea plant and other industrial ventures in the area that may damage the rock art?</p> <p>3. What benefits will the World Heritage Listing to the Traditional Owners?</p> <p>4. Will this listing prevent destruction of the cultural heritage existing in these sites?</p>	Written
187	SQ22-000724	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Lidia Thorpe	Cultural heritage protections in the Beetaloo Basin	<p>1. How is the government working with Traditional Owners in the Beetaloo Basin whose sacred sites are being damaged, and threaten to be completely destroyed, by fracking activity in the area?</p> <p>2. What avenues do these people have to protect their cultural heritage, when they are unable to oppose fracking activity on their land that threatens cultural heritage, biodiversity, water, and health?</p> <p>3. What work could be done by the government to improve these avenues to</p>	Written

					give these people greater hope for protecting their cultural heritage against fracking?	
188	SQ22-000725	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	EPBC/Environmental offsets	<p>1. Has the public interface on the Department's offset database commenced operating?</p> <p>a. If not, when can that interface be expected to go live?</p> <p>2. What information [is or will be] available on the public interface of the offset database?</p> <p>3. For the EPBC approvals listed below, please advise:</p> <p>a. when the action commenced;</p> <p>b. what offsets or equivalent payments have been delivered to date, and when; and,</p> <p>c. when offsets or equivalent payments are due under the approval.</p> <p>EPBC approvals:</p> <p>? 2010/5513</p> <p>? 2010/5567</p> <p>? 2010/5696</p> <p>? 2010/5706</p> <p>? 2012/6689</p> <p>? 2013/7055</p> <p>? 2014/7275</p> <p>? 2017/8024</p> <p>? 2017/8025</p> <p>4. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to offset the Mineral Sands Mines approved in EPBC 2004/1636?</p> <p>5. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to offset the Mixed Residential Development that has been constructed at Homestead Road, Point Cook (EPBC 2006/2819)? How is that place(s) formally (legally) protected?</p> <p>6. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to offset the construction and operation of the Frankston bypass (EPBC 2007/3480)?</p> <p>a. How is that place(s) formally (legally) protected?</p> <p>7. Condition 2 of the approval of the Westlink Industrial Estate (EPBC 2007/3530) required that "a six habitat hectare offset site of very high conservation significance" be provided.</p> <p>a. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to satisfy this requirement?</p> <p>b. How is that place(s) formally (legally) protected?</p> <p>8. Condition 3(a) of the approval of the Bush Boulevard development, east of Plenty Valley Town Centre (EPBC 2008/4126), required that an offset site (other than the McDonalds Road reserves) be identified and secured. What place(s)</p>	Written

					<p>(Volume/Folio) has been protected to satisfy this requirement?</p> <p>a. How is that place(s) formally (legally) protected?</p> <p>9. Condition 3 of the approval of a Residential Development at Craigieburn (EPBC 2008/4161) required the protection of habitat for Golden Sun Moth. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to satisfy this requirement?</p> <p>a. How is that place(s) formally (legally) protected?</p> <p>10. Condition 3(a) of the approval of the Werribee Stone Extraction Project (EPBC 2010/5347) required the protection of the Warrayure Site. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to satisfy this requirement?</p> <p>11. Condition 4(a) of the approval of the Werribee Stone Extraction Project (EPBC 2010/5347) required the protection of 94 hectares of land. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to satisfy this requirement?</p> <p>12. Condition 5(a) of the approval of the Werribee Stone Extraction Project (EPBC 2010/5347) required the protection of 20 hectares of land. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to satisfy this requirement?</p> <p>13. Condition 2 of the approval to construct a residential development and associated infrastructure at Truganina (EPBC 2010/5791) required the protection of at least 12.15 hectares of land. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to satisfy this requirement?</p> <p>a. How is that place(s) formally (legally) protected?</p> <p>14. Condition 2 of the approval of the West Werribee Dual Water Supply Scheme Stages 2B, 2D &amp; 2E (EPBC 2011/6139) required the protection of an offset(s) to compensate for the impacts of that action. What place(s) (Volume/Folio) has been protected to satisfy this requirement?</p> <p>a. How is that place(s) formally (legally) protected?</p>	
189	SQ22-000726	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Karara Magnetite Mine	<p>1. Between 2000 and 2007, the Department paid the WA Government close to \$1 million to establish a National Park in the Karara Rangeland through the purchase of 5 properties. The financial agreements required the land to be made into a Park within 18 months. To date, a small fraction of the land has been declared a Park.</p> <p>a. Why hasn't the Department asserted its rights under the financial agreements?</p> <p>b. Why did the Department approve mining activity within the proposed Park after the agreements were made?</p> <p>c. Is it normal for a state government to be 20 years late in delivering a jointly funded National Park?</p> <p>d. Is it normal to approve a mine in a proposed, taxpayer funded, National Park?</p> <p>e. What is the Department doing to ensure the WA Government performs its</p>	Written

					<p>obligations under the financial agreements?</p> <p>2. Karara Magnetite Mine (reference number 2006/3017) is one of those mines in the proposed Park approved by the Department. The approval required the company to relinquish the land for conservation by 31 March 2012 or secure an offset.</p> <p>a. Have either of those things occurred?</p> <p>b. If yes, please provide details.</p> <p>c. If not, why not?</p> <p>3. What is the Department doing to ensure companies mining in the proposed Park are complying with their obligations under the EPBC Act?</p>	
190	SQ22-000727	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Species listed as threatened under the EPBC Act	<p>1. How many species are listed as threatened under the EPBC Act?</p> <p>a. How many of these threatened species have existing recovery plans, and how many are waiting on recovery plans?</p> <p>2. In your expert opinions, do you think 224.5m over 4 years is enough to develop and implement those plans, in a way that will result in recovery for those species?</p> <p>a. Is there any funding or program commitments for threatened species not identified as priority?</p>	Written
191	SQ22-000728	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Illegal clearing in a proposed offset area in Qld	<p>1. Can the Department confirm that Sunwater advised it of damage to one of its environmental offsets on 4 November 2019?</p> <p>2. Has the Department made any enquiries into this allegation?</p> <p>3. What action has the Department taken in relation to this allegation?</p>	Written
192	SQ22-000729	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	Pilbara Environmental Offset Fund	<p>In reference to the Memorandum of Understanding in relation to the Pilbara Environmental Offsets Fund between the Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Minister for the Environment and the State of Western Australia as represented by the Western Australian Minister for Environment, executed on 19 November 2020 (the MoU).</p> <p>1. Under item 3.2(a) of the MoU, what conservation mechanism(s) is the Pilbara Environmental Offsets Fund using to secure enduring habitat protection for matters protected in line with the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy?</p> <p>2. Under item 3.3(d) of the MoU, a Security of Offsets Plan was to be attached as a schedule to the MoU by 19 November 2021. Has a Security of Offsets Plan been considered or agreed by the Commonwealth?</p> <p>a. If not, why not?</p>	Written

					<p>3. Under item 3.4(c) of the MoU, the Pilbara Environmental Offsets Fund's "approach to the measurement and ongoing monitoring of baseline and changes to the habitat condition of each Protected Matter in the Pilbara" was to be agreed by 19 November 2021. Has an approach been considered or agreed by the Commonwealth?</p> <p>a. If not, why not?</p> <p>b. If an approach has been agreed, where is it published?</p>	
193	SQ22-000730	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sarah Hanson-Young	BHP Strategic Environmental Assessment	<p>In reference to the BHP Iron Ore – EPBC SEA Annual Environmental Report – July 2021 to June 2022 (latest Report). The latest Report states: "Table 5 details the current disturbance undertaken during the reporting period against the upper disturbance limit". On a scalable high-resolution map:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What areas did BHP hold approval to disturb prior to the decision to approve the BHP Strategic Assessment on 17 June 2017?</li> <li>2. Where has the disturbance referred to in Table 5 occurred?</li> </ol> <p>The report also states: "BHP submitted the Offsets Proposal for Mining Area C, in accordance with the Offsets Plan, on 14 December 2018. The Offsets Proposal is currently under review, and consultation with the Department is ongoing".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. What issue is preventing the approval of Offsets Proposal for Mining Area C?</li> <li>4. When will this offset be delivered?</li> </ol>	Written
194	SQ22-000735	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Matthew O'Sullivan	Southern Forests Irrigation Scheme (SFIS)	<p>With the Western Australian Government deciding not to progress with the following project, is there still money in the Budget and/or has there been any adjustment of timelines for the following project?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. \$39.7 million Federal contribution to the Southern Forest Irrigation Scheme in Southwest Western Australia</li> </ol>	Written
195	SQ22-000742	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	APCO packaging targets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How will APCO meet its 2025 packaging targets given it is late 2022?</li> <li>2. When will there be a full public update on APCO targets, and if not how does the government plan to be transparent about this?</li> <li>3. What discussions have occurred between Minister Plibersek and APCO on their not meeting 2025 targets, and what outcome if any was decided on?</li> </ol>	Written
196	SQ22-000743	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	ANAO Report into Australian Government Implementation of the National Waste Policy Action Plan (Auditor-General Report No. 4 of 2022-23)	<p>The Department accepted all the recommendations from the ANAO Performance Audit Report into Australian Government Implementation of the National Waste Policy Action Plan (Auditor-General Report No. 4 of 2022-23). Please provide an update (including specific steps and/or actions) on progress in implementing the agreed recommendations, including:</p> <p>Recommendation 1a: propose and coordinate the development of processes to</p>	Written

				2022-23) recommendations	<p>manage risk to the implementation of the NWPAP</p> <p>Recommendation 1b: develop guidance for action-leads to ensure consistency of reporting and escalation of risks to the implementation of NWPAP actions.</p> <p>Recommendation 2: develop risk management processes to ensure that risk is: a) managed for Australian Government-led actions; b) coordinated across Australian Government action-leads; and c) managed within the context of the implementation of the NWPAP and the achievement of its objectives.</p> <p>Recommendation 3a: establish processes to manage shared risks identified for Australian Government-led actions;</p> <p>Recommendation 3b: propose and coordinate the development of processes for the management of shared risks for jointly-led actions.</p> <p>Recommendation 4a: finalise a performance monitoring and evaluation framework for Australian Government-led actions, including establishing arrangements for results of performance monitoring activities to be used to manage implementation issues and inform decision-making</p> <p>Recommendation 4b: propose and coordinate the development of processes to ensure that issues reported and raised with governance bodies are addressed.</p> <p>Recommendation 5a: coordinate the establishment of agreed scope and deliverables for non-Australian Government-led actions listed in the NWPA</p> <p>Recommendation 5b: establish agreed scope and deliverables for Australian Government-led actions</p> <p>Recommendation 5c: facilitate the review of delivered actions to confirm that each has been completed as intended</p>	
197	SQ22-000744	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the	Peter Whish-Wilson	Redcycle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When was the government aware Redcycle was stockpiling soft plastics collected from the major supermarkets?</li> <li>2. Did the federal government meet with Redcycle at any stage to discuss their issues?</li> <li>3. Did the Government talk to state or local government joint venture partners</li> </ol>	Written

		Environment and Water			on federally funded infrastructure projects about buying Redcycle soft plastic content?	
198	SQ22-000745	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	2025 National Packaging Targets	The 2025 national packaging targets for 2019-20 set a target of 20% recycled content in plastic packaging, but by 2019-20 had only reached 3%. What is industry doing to rectify this? What work has been undertaken by the government to resolve this? Please list the government funded grants that have been provided for packaging/product development using recycled products (over the past 10 years)?	Written
199	SQ22-000746	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Recycled products	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What leadership, policy development or action has been taken by the Federal Gov on mandating, directing or incentivising procurement of recycled products - especially recycled plastic products - for use in infrastructure projects, including road base etc?</li> <li>2. Has the federal government or its joint venture partners on federally funded infrastructure projects (state or local governments) procured any recycled content (such as from soft plastics) for any federally funded infrastructure projects?</li> <li>3. If so, please list details (dollar value, specifics by product type, recycler purchased from).</li> <li>4. Are there any government-initiated trials around the country looking at developing markets or applications for recycled products such as from soft plastics? If so, where?</li> <li>5. What conversations has the government had with recycling industry stakeholders on helping create demand for recycled product through direct procurement (for use in building materials or infrastructure projects as an example)?</li> <li>6. Given that the Commonwealth enters joint ventures with states or local governments for federally funded infrastructure projects (such as road works), how would federal government procurement of recycled content for addition to raw materials actually work? Does the government make funding contracts with state and local government, or commercial enterprises, subject to recycled content use rules? If so, has this been audited? If not, has this policy been given consideration?</li> </ol>	Written
200	SQ22-000242	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Dorinda Cox	Impact of climate change on First Nations people	1. What research or papers examining the impacts of climate change on First Nations people has the Government considered in its response to climate change? What have been some of the key findings? Is the government supporting any research projects into this, and is this being led by First Nations researchers?	Written

					2. What will the Government do to ensure that First Nations communities are not disproportionately impacted as the effects of climate change worsen?	
201	SQ22-000243	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Dorinda Cox	Torres Strait Islander Climate Change Centre of Excellence	There is \$15.9 million in the budget to establish Torres Strait Islander Climate Change Centre of Excellence. 1. Where will this be located? 2. Will this be in an existing building or facility or will something need to be built? 3. What will be the focus of this centre?	Written
202	SQ22-000881	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Antarctic and science precinct: AAD footprint in square metres	Senator DUNIAM: Okay. I've not seen anything other than the artist's impressions of the stadium available on the Department of State Growth website in Tasmania. First, can you tell me-if you have to take it on notice, that's fine-what area we are looking at in square metres? Mr Ellis: I'll take that on notice. Senator DUNIAM: That's fine. No problems. The Tasmanian government have given you an assurance that they can co-accommodate this stadium et cetera plus the ASP. Are you confident that that can be arranged with the knowledge you have through the KPMG report and what has been reported from the Tasmanian government around this stadium? Mr Ellis: I don't have any more detail on the layout or size or design of the entertainment and sports precinct. At this stage, I couldn't provide any assurances that the footprints have been accommodated. I just have an assurance from the Tasmanian government that, as that planning process goes through, they will accommodate an Antarctic science precinct, and a precinct that allows us proximity to the wharf, which is one of the conditions of precedent for us. Senator DUNIAM: A very important condition precedent, and one I certainly support. Thank you for that. If you can provide on notice that information around the footprint, that would be great.	5
203	SQ22-000882	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Davis Aerodrome project - staffing	Senator DUNIAM: On notice, do you think you can provide to me some details around the number of personnel, noting that some of them are Department of Finance employees who were seconded-or did they just travel down? Mr Ellis: They were seconded to the Davis aerodrome project. Senator DUNIAM: If you could, on notice, provide to me the make-up and structure of the Davis aerodrome project staffing, that would be very helpful. Mr Ellis: Yes, will do.	5
204	SQ22-000883	Department of Climate Change,	Jonathon Duniam	Davis aerodrome project - number and value of consultants	Senator DUNIAM: Before I follow on from Senator Whish-Wilson's questions on the Nash review, could you also take on notice the number and value of	8

		Energy, the Environment and Water			consultants deployed to the Davis aerodrome project as well? Mr Ellis: Yes.	
205	SQ22-000884	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Diversity, equity, inclusion and culture steering committee	Senator DUNIAM: Okay. On notice, please provide to me a list of the personnel who are on the steering committee and what specific roles they have in implementing the responses to the recommendations.	8
206	SQ22-000886	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Russell review - interviews	Senator WATERS: Just harkening back to those 30 interviews, were they done face to face? Mr Riley: I'd have to take that on notice.	10
207	SQ22-000885	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Russell review	Senator WATERS: Am I right that she's due to report by 12 December? Mr Fredericks: Senator, that has changed. That was only a couple of days ago. She asked for an extension of that report to February, so I've allowed that. She'll now report in February. Senator WATERS: Okay. Thank you. What's the February date, please? Mr Fredericks: I don't have the exact date. Do we have the exact date? I'll take it on notice. Senator WATERS: Thank you. Who's paying for her work, then? Mr Fredericks: The department is. Senator WATERS: Perhaps, Minister or Mr Fredericks, on notice, you could provide me how much the department's allocated to fund that vital work. Mr Fredericks: Yes, I'm happy to do that.	10
208	SQ22-000366	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	COP27 delegation	Senator DUNIAM: How many departmental officials accompanied Minister Bowen on this journey? Dr Box: You asked about the size of the official delegation? Senator DUNIAM: Yes. Dr Box: The official delegation to COP consisted of 45 delegates, and that included 38 Australian government officials, three ministers and four ministerial advisers. Senator DUNIAM: If you could provide on notice, in accordance with the usual rules, detail on who they were, position titles et cetera, that would be very helpful. Dr Box: Absolutely.	11

					<p>Senator DUNIAM: Instead of going through the cost questions here, I will go to them on notice, because I presume you're not going to have full costs of the delegation's travel in your folder there, are you?</p> <p>Dr Box: Not yet, just because delegates are still acquitting their travel and we're still processing invoices, so we don't have the final costs yet.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Let's stick to putting those on notice to save everyone a high degree of angst tonight.</p>	
209	SQ22-000372	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	COP27 - official schedule	<p>Senator DUNIAM: In addition to what I've already asked for on notice, I wonder if I could have any detail around the official schedule for each of the 40 delegates- did you say?-for the official events at the COP?</p> <p>Dr Box: I can certainly provide-</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: As best you can, without going into people's-</p> <p>Dr Box: As best we can, noting that many of the delegates were involved in negotiations whose timetable would have changed from day to day. We'll certainly provide the best we can.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: I'm not going to be splitting hairs over five minutes missed in the morning and that sort of thing. What about social events, welcome events and hospitality? What was the deal with all of that?</p> <p>Dr Box: There were three events at the pavilion that would have been classed as stakeholder events, whereby there was official hospitality, so there was-</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Sorry to interrupt, Dr Box. Provided for by the Australian government-is that what you're talking about?</p> <p>Dr Box: That's right. There was a stakeholder welcoming event early in our time at the pavilion, there was an event which was a farewell to the Australian pavilion, where we gathered Australian stakeholders, and then there was a breakfast hosted by Assistant Minister McAllister for Pacific women negotiators.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: In relation to those three events, if I could please have, on notice, details of attendees and the purpose of the event in broad terms-you have outlined it-and the cost associated with it. It may come out of the work around the itineraries of delegates. I'd like to focus on the ministers' itineraries. Hospitality provided by the secretariat, for want of a better term, or other entities and welcome receptions for all of the official delegates, the ministerial representatives and the like-is there some central repository of knowledge around those events?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: There isn't a central UNFCCC repository of those events, but we have a record of the event that the ministers attended.</p>	12
210	SQ22-000374	Department of Climate	Janet Rice	Victorian Forest Alliance report	<p>Senator RICE: Thank you. Briefly, I just want to go on to ask whether the department was aware of the report by the Victorian Forest Alliance that,</p>	14

		Change, Energy, the Environment and Water			<p>relatedly, found that immediately ending native forest logging could prevent 14 million tonnes of carbon emissions by 2030.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: That was about native logging?</p> <p>Senator RICE: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: That would be a question for forestry and other parts of the department. We sort of cover how this particular issue relates to the generation of electricity and the existing Renewable Energy Target. As I understand it, though-</p> <p>Senator RICE: But it's basically the intersection between ending native forest logging and meeting our climate targets, and the risks that native forest logging poses for our climate targets.</p> <p>Mr White: I'm not aware. That group may have made a submission into the process, but there were 2,900 submissions, so I cannot-</p> <p>Senator RICE: It's a separate issue from the burning of native forest biomass. It's about the climate impacts from the carbon emissions from native forest logging.</p> <p>Mr White: Yes. This whole process was explicitly not about native forest logging.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Okay. Well, maybe you're not the right people to be answering my questions, then.</p> <p>Ms Evans: Those questions probably belong to my people, but I'll just check. We don't have an answer for you today, so we'll take it on notice.</p>	
211	SQ22-000376	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Janet Rice	Development of an emissions reduction methodology for avoided native forest logging	<p>Senator RICE: Has the department done any work since the change of government on the carbon benefits in general or the development of an emissions reduction methodology for avoided native forest logging?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I'll just check. I think the answer is no.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Have you ever been briefed by or sought advice from acknowledged academic experts in this field such as Professor Heather Keith and David Lindenmayer?</p> <p>Ms Pentony: I understand that previously we have looked at this issue, but it was some years ago now.</p> <p>Senator RICE: So you haven't done any-</p> <p>Ms Pentony: Not since the change of government.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Not since the change of government. Maybe you could take on notice, then, the work that has been done on this issue in recent years.</p> <p>Ms Pentony: Yes.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Thank you.</p>	14
212	SQ22-000377	Department of Climate Change,	Larissa Waters	Correspondence from Dr David Ritchie to	<p>Senator WATERS: Has a copy of the correspondence that Dr David Ritchie wrote to the Northern Territory Chief Minister, where he calls for the feds to step in and order for those Pepper review recommendations, particularly the ones</p>	17

		Energy, the Environment and Water		Northern Territory Chief Minister	<p>about offsetting scope 1 to 3 emissions for Beetaloo, been provided to either the minister or the department? Has anyone seen a copy of that letter?</p> <p>Ms Evans: Not to my knowledge. It hasn't come in.</p> <p>Senator McAllister: We'll take that on notice, Senator Waters. You asked about the minister, and I can't tell you at this point, but I'm happy to take it on notice.</p>	
213	SQ22-000887	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	Cost to recycle a house or car battery	<p>Senator RENNICK: Do you know how much it would cost to recycle a house battery or a car battery? Have you got figures on that?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: I'm sorry, Senator, that's a question for our waste colleagues, who have already appeared. I'm sure we could look into those sorts of issues.</p> <p>Mr Fredericks: We'll take it on notice. It's in an outcome that has already been done, but that's okay. We'll take it on notice and come back to you.</p>	18
214	SQ22-000378	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	Costings for storage	<p>Senator RENNICK: Do we have any costings for storage? How much will it cost, in terms of storage, to get to our 2030 target?</p> <p>Mr Duggan: A lot of this is, of course, private provisions. In fact, you'd hope that the vast majority of it was.</p> <p>Government has policies that would assist that-</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: That is fine, but we're told every day that renewables are cheaper. I want that quote substantiated by proper costings, whether it's funded publicly or privately, because it's going to end up either out of the taxpayer's pocket or on their energy bill. So I'm looking for costings just on storage. I want it on other issues as well, such as transmission, but I'm asking: do you have costings on that storage?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: We'll take that on notice. The difficulty with answering that question with any kind of precision is that, in terms of deep storage, it will relate to a number of technologies-it's the same for deep and shallow. It will ultimately depend on the precise mix of those, but we can do things at a high level with respect to the nature of the type of storage that fits within that and provide some estimates to you.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: So you don't have definite figures at the moment?</p> <p>Mr Duggan: What we can do for you-and we'll have to take this on notice-is look at the existing pipeline of projects that are underway and what the private proponents have told us about the cost of those things. We can add to that: through Rewiring the Nation or other policies that are helping to assist that, we can break down the government contribution to that. But we just don't have all that detail in front of us.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: I want government and private, because, ultimately, it going to cost the consumer through taxes or energy bills. But is that fair to say that that's not completed yet?</p>	18

					Mr Duggan: We will take that on notice and we'll endeavour to do our best to come back to you.	
215	SQ22-000379	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	82 percent renewables - number turbines and solar panels needed	<p>Senator RENNICK: Thanks very much. Yet again, in terms of the overall modelling, have you got a breakout of how many turbines you need, how many solar panels you need to get to 82 per cent renewables?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: Again, the Integrated System Plan does provide an indication of the type of the level of renewable energy, so just bear with us a second.</p> <p>Mr Peisley: Sorry, I don't think we do have that figure in front of us. We're happy to take it on notice and get it to you.</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: But if it gives you a sense of it, it's nine times the amount of the existing variable renewable energy that currently is-well, as of when the last Integrated System Plan came out, it was operating in the NEM at that point. So that gives you the quantum of-</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: So nine times what?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: Nine times.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: Yes, but what?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: The variable renewable energy that is currently in the National Electricity Market.</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: So what's the cost of that?</p> <p>Ms Brunoro: Again, Senator, it depends on the mix of technologies that you're going to deploy. There are some figures that we can pull out for you around what they roughly think around different-solar versus wind for instance. We can actually seek to provide-</p> <p>Senator RENNICK: So can you give me some definite costings on that? Not now, but on notice?</p>	18-19
216	SQ22-000380	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Spending under Climate Solutions fund	<p>Senator WATERS: The Australian Greens have been using the PBO to keep track of spending under the Climate Solutions Fund. In June the PBO published their post-election report showing that there was \$1.43 billion left available in the fund. However, after the election the PBO advised us, in September, that there's now only \$1.325 billion available. Can you please tell me where the additional \$105 million has been spent, particularly since it must have been spent post the Chubb review into questionable methodologies?</p> <p>Ms Evans: It's difficult to answer your question. Maybe what I can do is clarify where things are at now.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I'm really just interested in where the \$105 million was spent.</p>	21-22

					<p>Ms Evans: I'm not sure that we can answer that question.</p> <p>Ms Rowley: I think I can assist. The Climate Solutions Fund, on our figures, had \$1.65 billion uncommitted, and that money has all been allocated to the Powering the Regions Fund. That's over the full period, not just the forwards.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. I understand that meta-point, but the details here are that the PBO showed that there was \$1.43 billion left in June and then in September that there was only \$1.325 billion left. Where did the \$105 million go?</p> <p>Ms Rowley: I would need to check. It's possible that-actually, we'll need to check.</p> <p>Ms Evans: Yes. We need to take the information and take it on notice to answer your question. Our understanding was that not very much of the Climate Solutions Fund itself had been committed. When we went through the budget process to create the Powering the Regions Fund-that's where all of the funding is now sitting. To find out the difference between those two numbers that the PBO has provided you, I think we'll need to see if we can see the analysis, and then give you an answer on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you.</p> <p>Ms Evans: The Clean Energy Regulator is on later tonight, and they may well be able to give you an answer this evening.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Great. I can't wait to be here even longer! If you wouldn't mind taking it on notice, just in case I literally cannot stand up any longer.</p> <p>Ms Evans: We will take it on notice.</p>	
217	SQ22-000381	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	List of new coal and gas projects and emissions associated	<p>Senator WATERS: Yes. In my view, there are too many projects to stick with the 43 per cent reduction target, hence my question. Perhaps you can take it on notice until your report has been released, but I'll just get in early and ask on notice for the list of all new coal and gas projects and the emissions associated from those projects that are assumed to occur for the 43 per cent target to be realised.</p>	23
218	SQ22-000382	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Matthew Canavan	Global Environment Facility	<p>Senator CANAVAN: What percentage is the \$2 billion of the overall funds provided to the Global Environment Facility?</p> <p>Dr Box: We don't provide \$2 billion to the Global Environment Facility.</p> <p>Senator CANAVAN: What is our contribution?</p> <p>Dr Box: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CANAVAN: Could you take on notice the percentage of the overall fund that Australia contributes.</p> <p>That would be great.</p>	25

219	SQ22-000364	Clean Energy Regulator	David Pocock	Report - Dr Fensham	<p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Clearly, allowing people to feed into an independent review is crucial. If I can move on to a slightly different topic, I understand that the regulator commissioned Dr Rod Fensham to prepare a report on the impacts of grazing on tree and shrub cover in the rangelands to do with human induced regeneration. Could you confirm that you received a draft report from Dr Fensham?</p> <p>Mr Parker: Let us clarify precisely what was commissioned. This was a contractual matter. A report was commissioned from Dr Fensham, and it was a report on a review of the published literature-that is, 'Tell us what the peer reviewed, published science says.' Dr Fensham did provide with us a draft of that. We did have some concerns with the draft in the sense that it was not complete. It did not cover a range of the published literature, and this was pointed out, and a list of further literature which we thought would be appropriate to include in the literature review was provided. The other element of the draft report which we received was that it included further research by Dr Fensham which was not peer reviewed. It was, in a sense, in what you might call the grey literature space, so it did not fall within the terms of the contract we had with him, and we asked that that element of the report not be included in the peer reviewed report of the literature but said that we would be perfectly happy to receive that material from him separately, should he wish.</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: So it's never been finalised or publicly released?</p> <p>Mr Parker: It hasn't. We talked with the University of Queensland about the finalisation of the report some time ago, and I don't think we've seen any further material from them.</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Would you be able to table the draft stage of it, if that's possible, on notice?</p>	28
220	SQ22-000365	Clean Energy Regulator	David Pocock	New plantation methods - consultation	<p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Thank you. Sorry. I'm just getting the hurry-up. Can I just jump to something else. Specifically, one of the things I wanted to find out from you was: did you or ERAC get any finalised advice from ABARES concerning the risk that plantations would be converted into agricultural or other land uses during the development of the new plantation methods?</p> <p>Mr Parker: Yes, and it was done with ABARES.</p> <p>Ms Thompson: Yes, we did, and we've released that draft report through an FOI process. In fact, that report showed that a large quantum of the plantation forestry-their view was that, as an additionality test, there was a significant amount of plantation estate that was at risk of converting to a non-forestry land use, and that report that we released on FOI shows that. In fact, it was because we felt that the additionality gateway or test, if you like, was too broad that we</p>	28-29

					<p>moved to put in place the more elaborated additionality tests that the method actually contains, which I'm happy to go through in more detail if you wish.</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Great. Thank you. That would be helpful at some time.</p> <p>CHAIR: Can I take the call? You've had 15, so we're going to rotate the call and then we'll come back to you.</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: I'm pretty much done.</p> <p>CHAIR: Okay, go.</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: I'm just going to ask, maybe on notice: what other scientists were consulted in the development of that method?</p> <p>Mr Parker: Sure.</p> <p>Ms Thompson: Sure.</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: Thank you. Senator Canavan.</p> <p>Senator CANAVAN: They're not going to answer that?</p> <p>Senator DAVID POCOCK: On notice is fine.</p>	
221	SQ22-000367	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Matthew Canavan	Energy generation	<p>Senator CANAVAN: Just to come back to my question: were the figures of one and four gigawatts that you just provided in evidence to the Senate-I don't want you to mislead the Senate-for all energy generation over the last 10 years, or were they for dispatchable generation?</p> <p>Senator McAllister: Senator Canavan, they're the figures I've been provided, and I'll come back to you with the detail you are seeking for.</p> <p>Senator CANAVAN: Maybe you should take it on notice, because I think otherwise it may be a misleading impression.</p>	31
222	SQ22-000375	Clean Energy Regulator	Jonathon Duniam	Potential termination of any particular methodologies	<p>Senator DUNIAM: I'm just wondering whether the government has sought any advice-following on from some questions before from Senator Pocock-about the potential termination of any particular methodologies under the ERF.</p> <p>Mr Parker: That's a big question. There are many methods. There were some methods which have been rescinded.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: My question-sorry, Mr Parker-was: has the government sought any advice about any significant methodologies to perhaps turn off?</p> <p>Mr Parker: This government?</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Yes. If you need to take it on notice, that's fine.</p> <p>Ms Thompson: I'm just trying to make sure I understand the question. You mean methods that are on the books?</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Correct, yes.</p> <p>Ms Thompson: Not to my knowledge.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Could you take it on notice for certainty?</p> <p>Ms Thompson: Yes, certainly.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Thank you very much for the work you did prior to the last</p>	31-32

					<p>election with regard to forestry. I appreciate that.</p> <p>Ms Evans: I just want to clarify that the government has established the independent review that Senator Pocock has been referring to, which is looking broadly across all of the methods. So, in that sense, the government has asked for that to happen.</p> <p>Senator DUNIAM: Yes, but separate to that-perhaps if there were any specific requests outside of that. It sounds like the answer is no, but, if we could just be certain on notice, that would be great.</p>	
223	SQ22-000282	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	Roadmap - reduction in CO2 by 2030	<p>1. Can the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water provide a comprehensive roadmap of the work required for Australia to meet a 43% reduction in CO2 by 2030. This roadmap should set out the length of transmission lines, the number of transmission towers, the number of solar panels (for a given wattage), the number of wind turbines (for a given wattage), the number of batteries (for a given storage), the amount of lithium, copper, cobalt, nickel, concrete, and steel etc. needed to build the aforesaid generators and storage. It will need to include the amount of land needed for solar, wind, transmission and storage products, and the biodiversity offsets. Could the amount of CO2 required to build, recycle, or dispose of the aforementioned items also be included? Likewise, could the cost of building, recycling, and disposing of the aforementioned items also be clearly outlined? Biodiversity impacts such as increased tyre wear due to heavier batteries in cars, increased breaking distance on roadkill, impact on bats and birds from transmission lines and wind turbines, and removal of native flora and fauna due to land use should also be clearly outlined.</p> <p>2. If the Department cannot provide, can it state which department is responsible for maintaining and tracking the roadmap and refer the question onto them?</p>	Written
224	SQ22-000283	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	Wind Turbines	<p>1. Regarding wind turbines, are there standards to ensure that the epoxy used will have a UV filter to stop the epoxy breaking down and allowing bisphenol A to run off into the environment?</p>	Written
225	SQ22-000787	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	Larissa Waters	Douglas Shoal	<p>1. What are the best estimates by maritime experts of the total amount of toxic anti-foulant materials, including TBT, that remained in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (primarily on Douglas Shoal) after the grounding of the Shen Neng? Please provide documentation from reports prepared after the grounding to</p>	Written

					<p>support this answer.</p> <p>2. Do the contractual documents for the forthcoming clean-up outline the amount of anti-foulant materials, such as TBT, that must be removed from Douglas Shoal as part of the overall clean-up operation? If so, please outline those contractual obligations.</p> <p>3. If the clean-up contract refers only to an amount of rubble/substrate material to be removed, has an estimate been made of how representative that will be of the volume of toxic anti-foulant material removed? What methodology is the estimate based on?</p> <p>4. What is the Department's best estimate of the proportion of the total amount of toxic material originally deposited in the Marine Park that will be removed from Douglas Shoal by the end of the clean-up work?</p>	
226	SQ22-000789	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Arrow Energy - Subsidence - EPBC 2010/5344	<p>Condition 13 of approval (2010/5344) requires monitoring on subsidence and development and implementation of an action plan with trigger thresholds are exceeded.</p> <p>Arrow Energy has advised landholders that the LiDAR technology it uses "will likely not provide accurate surface elevation where there are pools of water ", despite being used on land within floodplains on which is common for water to be retained in depressions.</p> <p>1. Does the Department agree that LiDAR will not provide accurate data where affected by surface water?</p> <p>2. Does this undermine subsidence monitoring?</p> <p>3. How can Condition 13 be enforced if monitoring may not accurately identify when trigger thresholds are exceeded?</p>	Written
227	SQ22-000788	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Arrow Energy - Condamine	<p>A report by UNSW Sydney in 2016 found that only 17 out of hundreds of geological faults and no abandoned leaky wells have been incorporated into the regional groundwater model used to assess the impact of CSG production in the Condamine.</p> <p>How, and to what extent, does the Department monitor the integrity of operating and abandoned wells when assessing groundwater impacts? In the absence of specific, detailed data regarding the location of abandoned wells, well integrity and geological faults, how will the Department ensure existing and proposed gas projects will not have a significant impact on water resources in the Condamine River and Condamine River Alluvium within the Murray-Darling Basin?</p>	Written
228	SQ22-000791	Australian Institute of	Larissa Waters	Defence testing	<p>During the estimates hearing on 28 October 2022, Mr Mead advised that AIMS apply for GBRMPA permits for the defence-related research activities in the Marine Park.</p>	Written

		Marine Science			Part 5.2 of the Zoning Plan allows use or entry of a zone to undertake defence activities that would otherwise require permission ".without permission after notification to the Authority and subject to any directions given by the Authority. 1. Are the defence testing activities classified as "defence activities"? 2. If so, does AIMS require permission for those defence activities, or only to notify GBRMPA that they are using the Zone for that purpose?	
229	SQ22-000790	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Larissa Waters	Climate vulnerability report	In response to a previous QON (SQ22-000123) on whether the CSIRO climate vulnerability assessment report that was prepared for the Department, and the supporting Climate Change Toolkit for Australia's World Heritage Properties, would be made public. The Department explained that the Toolkit would be withheld and revised in line with UNESCO's policy document on climate action for World Heritage.  While guidance on how to manage climate vulnerability should align with UNESCO policy, the actual assessment of the climate vulnerability of Australia's World Heritage properties should not be affected by the UNESCO policy.  1. Will the Department make the climate vulnerability assessment public?	Written
230	SQ22-000792	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Matt O'Sullivan	Myalup-Wellington Project	1. The Federal Government and Western Australia Government did a Joint Media Release in March 2022 announcing \$800,000 for a business case to assess a range of local water solutions, including expansion of the existing Binningup desalination plant, the construction of a new 20 gigalitre capacity Wellington Dam desalination plant, and establishing a new irrigation scheme. Further to this funding, there was allocation in the 2018-19 Federal Budget of \$140 million grant funding plus a concessional loan of up to \$50 million towards the Myalup-Wellington Project.  A) Is there still money in the Budget and/or has there been any adjustment to either the funding amount or the timelines for the Myalup-Wellington Project?	Written
231	SQ22-000357	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Low Energy Building	1. Did the 2021 review of the Trajectory for Low Energy Buildings occur? If not, why not? 2. Is there work being conducted for the noted 2024 review? Will that update and provide certainty about the target date for a standard for net-zero homes? 3. (May need to be on notice) what is the average thermal star and whole of home rating, for standalone dwellings, townhouses and apartments? a. Do you have a breakdown by state and territory? 4. Does the Government know what the average star rating for public housing is? 5. Has modelling been done to show what the average energy rating would be in	Written

					<p>(1) 2030; and (2) 2050?</p> <p>6. The IEA, require 20% of existing homes to be retrofitted to near 100 whole of home equivalent by 2030 for their Net Zero scenario, and 2% every year thereafter? Is this being planned for? What about public housing?</p> <p>7. The IEA assume 40% of all abatement by 2040 is Energy Efficiency,</p> <p>a. How much is assumed in Government commitment to meet 43% by 2030 and net-zero?</p>	
232	SQ22-000846	Director of National Parks	Jonathon Duniam	National Marine Park Network	What changes has the Albanese Government made, to date, to the National Marine Park Network?	Written
233	SQ22-000849	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	CITES Seizures	<p>1. In what percentage of CITES cases in 2022 did DAFF seize items that arrived in Australia?</p> <p>2. In those cases of seizure during 2022, what percentage of them involved the lack of a permit for importation into Australia?</p> <p>3. In those cases of seizure during 2022, what was the (a) average number of days for which these items were held and (b) the longest number of days for which these items were held?</p>	Written
234	SQ22-000850	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Jonathon Duniam	Importation Seizure - Mr Russell	<p>Is it true that Mr Russell's item remains seized by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry?</p> <p>Is it also true that Mr Russell continues to be prevented from being able to send the item back to its country of origin?</p> <p>If so, for how long does the Department intend to stop Mr Russell from being able to (a) regain possession of the item and/or (b) send the item back to its country of origin?</p> <p>Why was Mr Russell denied the opportunity to ship the consignment back to the country of origin until a permit was approved?</p> <p>Especially bearing in mind that the Canadian CITES office had approved the permits to export the shipment, who made the decision that it would be illegal for Mr Russell's shipment to be stored in an Australian bond warehouse until an Australian permit was approved?</p> <p>Especially bearing in mind that the Canadian CITES office had approved the permits to export the shipment, why was the decision made that it would be illegal for Mr Russell's shipment to be stored in an Australian bond warehouse until an Australian permit was approved?</p> <p>Please list the further actions that DAFF considers that it will need to take in this case and please indicate by what date DAFF expects that each one of those actions will be completed.</p>	Written

235	SQ22-000356	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Gerard Rennick	Emissions reduction and Net Zero	<p>1. According to the December 2020 update, Australia emitted 499 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent to a 5 per cent decrease on 2019. Australia's grasslands are estimated to be 440 million hectares and native forest 147 million hectares, a total of approximately 587 hectares. It is estimated forest and grasslands absorb between 0.5 and 2 tonnes of carbon per hectare. Assuming an average of 1 tonne of CO2 absorbed by these landscapes then isn't Australia already at net zero?</p> <p>2. Can the CSIRO provide a comprehensive roadmap of the work required for Australia to meet a 43% reduction in CO2 by 2030? This roadmap should set out the length of transmission lines, the number of transmission towers, the number of solar panels (for a given wattage), the number of wind turbines (for a given wattage), the number of batteries (for a given storage), the amount of lithium, copper, cobalt, nickel, concrete, and steel etc. needed to build the aforesaid generators and storage. It will need to include the amount of land needed for solar, wind, transmission, and storage products and the biodiversity offsets. Could the amount of CO2 required to build, recycle, or dispose of the aforementioned items also be included. Likewise, could the cost of building, recycling, and disposing of the aforementioned items also be clearly outlined. Biodiversity impacts such as increased tyre wear due to heavier batteries in cars, increased breaking distance on roadkill, impact on bats and birds from transmission lines and wind turbines, and removal of native flora and fauna due to land use should also be clearly outlined.</p> <p>3. If the CSIRO cannot provide, can it state which department is responsible for maintaining and tracking the roadmap and refer the question onto them?</p> <p>4. Could the change in Earth's temperature as a result of Australia undertaking the 43% reduction in CO2 measures please be stated in order to ensure appropriate benchmarking and accountability if targets are not met?</p> <p>5. Could the CSIRO confirm if every country uses the same methods to calculate CO2 emission and reductions? If not, why not? What guarantees are there under the Net Zero that Australia won't be disadvantaged as a result of signing up to the Net Zero pledge?</p>	Written
236	SQ22-000362	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Simon Birmingham	COP27	<p>Regarding question 1 – we will provide a response to 1a) and d) – as it pertains to DFAT officials/Minister Conroy. DCCEEW will need to provide costs for their staff/Ministers.</p> <p>1. How many representatives did DFAT send to COP27 - please list their titles and levels.</p> <p>a. How many staff did Minister Bowen take?</p> <p>b. How many staff did Assistant Minister McAllister take?</p>	Written

c. What was the cost of the trip, broken down by flights, accommodation, meals, incidentals?

3. Please provide a copy of Minister Bowen's COP27 itinerary as provided to his office on the day of departure

a) Please provide a copy of any revised itineraries

4. Please provide a list of agreements signed by Australia, or new initiatives that Australia joined, at COP27 (include a description of each agreement and initiative)

5. Please provide a list of agreements or initiatives that Australia declined to join at COP27. Please include:

a) A brief description of the agreement/initiative

b) The reason Australia declined to join

6. Please provide a list of individuals that the Government sponsored or endorsed to attend COP27?

8. Please provide a list of all events and meetings hosted at the Australian pavilion during COP27. Please include:

a) The name, position and organisation of each speaker/presenter

b) The number of people who confirmed their attendance for each event

c) The photos taken of each event

9. Did the Australian pavilion showcase any Australian companies, products or research during COP27? If so, please provide:

a) The name of the company/product and/or researcher (and associated research institution)

b) The reason for their selection

c) Whether they were included at the request of the minister's office

10. What was the total cost of the Australian pavilion? Please provide an itemised breakdown of costs.

11. Please provide the details of all contracts entered into to support Australia's participation at COP27, including but not limited to the design and construction of the Australian pavilion.

For each contract, please include:

a) The start and end date of the contract

b) The names of the parties to the contract

c) The amount payable as set out in the contract and the total amount paid

d) A description of works carried out

12. Did any non-government entity, such as a business or NGO, financially support or sponsor the Australian delegation or pavilion? Please provide:

a) The name of the non-government entity

					<p>b) How much they contributed</p> <p>c) What they received in exchange for their contribution or sponsorship (please table any agreement)</p> <p>d) Did they host a side event at COP27? If so, who attended?</p> <p>13. Were any complaints made against any member of the Australian delegation? If so, please provide details of the complaint and any action taken.</p>	
237	SQ22-000877	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Bridget McKenzie	Biodiversity Agriculture Stewardship Package	<p>1. Is the Department still involved in any of the programs of the Biodiversity Agriculture Stewardship Package?</p> <p>2. Is the Department involved in the Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Certification Scheme?</p> <p>3. Can the Department provide an update on the progress and implementation dates for the Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Certification Scheme?</p> <p>4. Is the National Stewardship Tarding Platform attached to the Department of Agriculture? Noting the website indicates that the sponsoring agency is the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment and the website address is agstewardship@awe.gov.au.</p> <p>5. Is there a website for the Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Package on the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water?</p> <p>6. Is there a website for the Agriculture Biodiversity Stewardship Package on the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry? If so, do the websites link to make it easy for farmers and buyers to navigate between the websites?</p> <p>7. Has there been any promotion of the Trading Platform to farmers and buyers regarding the Trading Platform? If so, outline how and when this promotion took place?</p>	Written
238	SQ22-000384	Snowy Hydro Limited	James McGrath	Staffing and salary	<p>1. Please indicate how many FTE and or ESG staff are engaged in government relations, corporate affairs, communications, and public affairs functions.</p> <p>2. What salary band do these employees fall under? (i.e. below \$50,000 pa, \$50,000 – \$80,000 pa, \$80,000 – \$100,000 pa, \$100,000 – \$150,000 pa, \$150,000 – \$180,000 pa, \$180,000 – \$200,000 pa, \$200,000 + pa).</p> <p>3. How has the staffing numbers of FTE and or ESG staff changed (e.g. +/- by how many) since FY21/22?</p>	Written
239	SQ22-000383	Australian Renewable Energy Agency	Lidia Thorpe	Rooftop solar	<p>The Clean Energy Council estimates that approximately one in three homes now have rooftop solar in Australia, with households benefiting from reduced energy costs and improved household energy security.</p> <p>1. In regional and remote First Nations communities, how many households currently benefit from rooftop solar? What percentage of First Nations households have access to rooftop solar? I welcome this investment in microgrids in First Nations communities. Is there a business case on which this</p>	Written

investment is based? Will it be tabled?

2. Who have you been consulting in developing this measure? Which groups and First Nations clean energy experts?
3. There are over 1000 discrete First Nations communities in Australia. In how many First Nations communities will micro-grids be deployed?
  - a. Please advise the proposed criteria for selecting communities where microgrids will be deployed.
  - b. In which First Nations communities will these micro-grids be deployed?
  - c. [If a decision has been taken]: How was that decided? Were those communities involved in that decision?
  - d. [If a decision has yet to be taken]: How will the locations of microgrids be decided? Will ARENA or the Commonwealth have a role? Will local communities get to be co-decision makers to self-determine their own microgrid plans.
4. What are the potential benefits of deploying micro-grids in First Nations communities? Please provide your best current estimate of those benefits.
  - a. To whom will these benefits accrue?
5. Will First Nations residents be able to connect rooftop solar to their home in those communities where micro-grids are deployed?
6. Will benefits of cheaper energy be realised by First Nations residents of communities where micro-grids are deployed?
7. Can you explain to me how you will be adhering to the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent in establishing these microgrids?
8. A 2022 paper in Nature Energy looking at energy insecurity in 3,300 households across 28 remote communities in the NT found that 'nearly all households (91%) experienced a disconnection from electricity during the 2018–2019 financial year, and almost three quarters of households (74%) were disconnected more than ten times.' (Longden et al. 2022). Is ARENA aware of these kinds of figures around disconnections in remote communities?
9. Many First Nations people live in public housing and are mandated to use prepay meters by state and territory governments who act as both landlord and monopoly energy provider. As a result, the financial benefits flowing from the installation of microgrids will, in the absence of a clear direction from ARENA, flow to the relevant state and territory governments. Can the agency guarantee this transfer of funds from the Commonwealth to state and territory governments will lead to improved household energy security and reduced household energy costs for First Nations households struggling with rising costs?
10. This degree of energy poverty has dire consequences for First Nations people in these communities, including health risks from exposure to extreme

					<p>temperatures and inability to safely store some medicines. When will these people have access to cheap and reliable energy? How long will it take to deploy these micro-grids?</p> <p>11. How will ARENA be working to ensure these communities have access to renewable energy as soon as feasibly possible? (Can you please provide on notice project details including a timeline for when these remote communities will have access to renewable energy).</p> <p>12. How will this program work with the prepayment system currently in place in remote communities in the NT, a program that has caused a multitude of issues for First Nations people?</p> <p>13. Will you be working with the NT government to assist in transitioning away from this terrible program?</p> <p>14. Taken together this commitment totals \$89.3m across the entire country. I note that in 2020-21, Australian Federal and state governments provided fossil fuel subsidies that cost Australians \$11.6 billion, including the Territory's Power and Water Corporation decades-long and loss-making agreement to buy and transport gas. In that context what do you say to those communities that miss out on this microgrid investment? How will you increase access to cheaper, cleaner and more reliable renewable energy, including rooftop solar, for those First Nations communities?</p>	
240	SQ22-000897	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Recovery plans	<p>1. Please provide any advice the department provided to the Minister in relation to the scrapping of recovery plans for 176 threatened species.</p> <p>2. How many threatened species recovery plans are currently overdue? And for which species?</p> <p>3. How many of the 110 priority species in the threatened species action plan do not have recovery plans in force? Which species do not have recovery plans?</p> <p>For these questions, Senator Pocock has advised "documents" refers to emails, hand written notes, briefing papers, documents, call logs, sms and other messaging services, internal instant messaging services, calls and messages contained in Microsoft Teams informal memos, diary invites and calendar notations.</p>	Written
241	SQ22-000899	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Monitoring of grassland restoration	<p>How is the Department monitoring the restoration of grasslands as ordered by a remediation determination in relation to Lots 16 and 44 of DP756859 and Lot 1 of DP740077, Corrowong, NSW? Has a Mitigation Management Plan been submitted? If so, please provide a copy of the Mitigation Management Plan.</p>	Written

242	SQ22-000898	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Jam Land compliance case	<p>For these questions, Senator Pocock has advised "documents" refers to emails, hand written notes, briefing papers, documents, call logs, sms and other messaging services, internal instant messaging services, calls and messages contained in Microsoft Teams informal memos, diary invites and calendar notations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Did Senior officials from the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment meet with the National Farmers' Federation CEO Tony Mahar and Mr Richard Taylor on 5 April 2019 about the Jam Land compliance case, as was reported in the article "Farmers' group attended departmental meeting about grasslands clearing despite officials' warnings"?</li> <li>2. If yes, who invited them, what was the purpose of this meeting and what was discussed at this meeting? Please provide documents that minute the decisions and outcomes of this meeting.</li> <li>3. Who initiated this meeting and decided upon the Agenda? Please include any documents related to the organising of the meeting.</li> <li>4. Were any general meeting briefs, agendas, preparatory notes or other discussion documents prepared for Department officials prior to this meeting? If yes, please provide copies of these documents. Were any of these documents shared with the National Farmers' Federation?</li> <li>5. Were any Ministers or Ministerial staff involved in discussions or briefings that led to this meeting? If yes, please provide documents that illustrate this.</li> <li>6. Were any Ministers or Ministerial staff given a briefing - either verbally or in writing – following this meeting? If yes, please stipulate who.</li> <li>7. Did any departmental staff warn that this meeting could be "unusual" or could be inconsistent with the Commonwealth prosecutions policy and the Legal Services Directions 2017? If yes, please provide a copy of the document/s that show this. Please provide any internal legal advice given in this regard.</li> <li>8. If such a warning was given, did the Department take steps to ascertain whether such a meeting was consistent with the Commonwealth prosecutions policy and Legal Services Directions 2017? If yes, what steps were taken? Please</li> </ol>	Written
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					<p>provide a copy of the documents that illustrate any actions taken.</p> <p>9. Is it normal practice to allow lobby groups or third party interest groups to sit in on compliance meetings? Who requested the attendance of the NFF and were any reasons provided for that request? Please provide any documents that capture such a request.</p> <p>10. What discussions were occurring between the Department and Jam Land in the lead up to the meeting? Please provide all correspondence between the Department, the NFF and Jam Land (Mr Richard Taylor) in the 9 months prior to the meeting related to organising the meeting.</p> <p>11. Did any meetings with Jam Land concerning compliance action lead to a reduction in the area requested to be remediated?</p>	
243	SQ22-000900	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Jam Land correspondence	<p>For these questions, Senator Pocock has advised "documents" refers to emails, hand written notes, briefing papers, documents, call logs, sms and other messaging services, internal instant messaging services, calls and messages contained in Microsoft Teams informal memos, diary invites and calendar notations.</p> <p>1. Was Angus Taylor's office or anyone in Angus Taylor's office copied into any correspondence to or from the department of Agriculture Water and the Environment in relation to anything to do with Jam Land? Please provide copies of any documents or correspondence.</p>	Written
244	SQ22-000896	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	Communication regarding the article 'Spending to Save: What will it cost to halt Australia's extinction crisis?'	<p>1. Please provide any communication between the department and the Threatened Species Recovery Hub or Prof Brendan Wintle, Natasha Cadenhead, Rachel Morgain, Sarah Legge, Sarah Bekessy, Matthew Cantele, Hugh Possingham, James Watson, Martine Maron, David Keith, Stephen Garnett, John Woinarski or David Lindenmayer in relation to an article titled "Spending to Save: What will it cost to halt Australia's extinction crisis?"</p> <p>For these questions, Senator Pocock has advised "documents" refers to emails, hand written notes, briefing papers, documents, call logs, sms and other messaging services, internal instant messaging services, calls and messages contained in Microsoft Teams informal memos, diary invites and calendar notations.</p>	Written
245	SQ22-000894	Department of Climate	David Pocock	Funding for invasive species	<p>1. What is the current total funding for invasive species under the environment portfolio?</p>	Written

		Change, Energy, the Environment and Water				
246	SQ22-000895	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	David Pocock	National Environmental Science Program	<p>For these questions, Senator Pocock advised "documents" refers to emails, hand written notes, briefing papers, documents, call logs, sms and other messaging services, internal instant messaging services, calls and messages contained in Microsoft Teams informal memos, diary invites and calendar notations.</p> <p>1. What advice was provided in relation to the decision to collapse the National Environmental Science Program from six hubs to four? Please provide copies of such advice.</p> <p>2. Have any reviews been conducted into the work being done by the NESP Resilient Landscapes Hub? Is a review planned? If so, when?</p> <p>3. For any review of the NESP Resilient Landscapes Hub, have terms of reference or equivalent been devised? If so, please provide a copy of any draft or finalised terms of reference.</p>	Written
247	SQ22-000400	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Dorinda Cox	Hydrogen	<p>1. The Department's report states offshore wind farms are capable of delivering consistent year-round, affordable, clean energy, capable of powering local manufacturing industries – including green hydrogen and green steel. Does the Department believe that all hydrogen projects in the pipeline should produce green hydrogen as this will assist us in achieving our emissions reduction target?</p> <p>2. The report says that the Department is continuing to work towards the goal of Australia becoming a major producer and exporter of clean hydrogen by 2030. With over 90 hydrogen projects announced around the country, Australia has a world leading pipeline of clean hydrogen projects, positioning it to be a major global hydrogen exporter. With hydrogen projects commonly referred to as Green, Blue and Grey, can you provide the definition of 'clean hydrogen'.</p>	Written
248	SQ22-000901	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Copper, Chrome and Arsenic Timber Treatments	<p>1. How does the Department monitor the levels of CCA being illegally burnt. Is this left to individual states, or is there coordination of data?</p> <p>2. What data does the Department hold on the extent of contamination of green waste streams with CCA preventing the adoption of biomass to energy (emissions reduction) and biomass to biochar (carbon sequestration)?</p>	Written

249	SQ22-000902	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Peter Whish-Wilson	Cubbie Station Dam Leak	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When did the Department first become aware of the Cubbie Station dam leak? On what date/s did the leak occur?</li> <li>2. How much water was flooded into the surrounding country?</li> <li>3. What communication has been undertaken with the owners and/or Cotton Australia?</li> <li>4. What communication has been undertaken with the Queensland state government?</li> <li>5. What environmental assessments have been carried out in relation to the impact of release of water? This includes the release of any chemicals used for treatment of cotton released into the local area.</li> <li>6. Has the dam leak been repaired? If so, when?</li> <li>7. What was the impact of the release of water on local farms and local communities? Was there any impact on the local water supply?</li> </ol>	Written
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