

Senate Environment and Communications References Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
Inquiry into Oil and gas exploration and production in the Beetaloo Basin
02 August 2021

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE, ENERGY AND RESOURCES

TOPIC: QoN 5. Program announcement

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 02 August 2021, Page 30-31)

QUESTION No.: 5

Senator McCARTHY: The minister announced the grant program in early December. When was the program first proposed internally?

Mr Trotman: I might have to take that on notice. It was roughly late last year, but I'd need to come back to you on that one.

Senator McCARTHY: Okay. And did the minister propose it?

Mr Trotman: Again, I think I'd have to come back to you on that one if we can take that on notice.

Senator McCARTHY: If the minister did propose it, on what date did the minister propose it?

Mr Trotman: Thank you, yes. We'll take it on notice and, as I said to the chair, we'll endeavour to get that advice back to you before the end of the week.

ANSWER

The *Report on the Development of the Beetaloo Sub-basin* undertaken by Deloitte and commissioned by the Australian Government identified that a basin specific funding program could be warranted to ensure timely development in the Beetaloo. This recommendation first appeared in a draft report provided to the Department on 16 July 2020.