

Senate Economics References Committee
Inquiry into Australia's Oil and Gas Reserves
Public Hearing Friday, 27 August 2021

Senator PATRICK: I want to move to my last area of questioning: monthly production reports. Are you familiar with them at all?

Mr Tegg: Not in detail.

Senator PATRICK: They contain information about extraction and injection and basically what's happening with a production facility. We know of reports from ACIL Allen. I wonder whether or not you have a view as to whether they should be made public or not.

Mr Tegg: I couldn't venture an opinion of that, I'm afraid. It's beyond my expertise.

Senator PATRICK: I wonder if you can take that on notice.

Mr Tegg: Sure.

Senator PATRICK: I refer you to my amendment to the OPGGS Act last week, and I will have a bit of a complaint to you about the Labor Party not supporting me. Maybe if you had a look at it and ended up sharing the common view with me on the data. It's semipublic; it's about the public resource and how it's been handled as opposed to some [inaudible] as to how best to get gas out or whatever. That might help me the next time I move my amendment.

Mr Tegg: We will certainly take that on notice.

Good morning,

My apologies for missing this deadline and I appreciate the extension of time to allow me to prepare a response to the questions on notice. To that end:

QON 1 & 2: The AMWU believes that the public have a right to information that relates to projects that are being undertaken by the government. Too often commercial-in-confidence arguments are used to cover up underperformance or incompetence and hide information that is embarrassing to the government.

Further, given the important oversight role played by the Senate, the AMWU believe that there should be virtually no limit on the information that should be provided to it upon request. Anything less is a contempt of this important institution.

In relation to the two specific items that the AMWU was asked to comment on in the hearing (monthly reporting and the amendments to the OPGGS Act), we do not have a position.

Kind regards,

Warren Tegg
AMWU National Director of Policy

29 September 2021