

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
References Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 1

Hearing: Rehabilitation of mining and resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities

Outcome: Outcome 1

Program: Department of the Environment and Energy

Topic: The EPBC Act Offsets Policy 'additionality' and the NSW assessment bilateral agreement

Hansard Page: 3

Question Date: 14 February 2018

Question Type: Spoken

CHAIR (Senator Rice) asked:

CHAIR: In order to be consistent, though, with the offsets policy, it would have to be explicitly additionality—there would have to be additionality there?

Mr Tregurtha: As I said, the offsets policy of the Commonwealth is around providing additionality in regard to the delivery of offsets. If you want I can take on notice—if you need me to go back—and we can look at the wording, provide to you the wording, of the bilateral assessment agreement.

CHAIR: That would be good. Yes. And if you could outline how it's consistent with the policy, given your policy has to incorporate additionality.

Mr Tregurtha: Indeed.

Answer:

The Commonwealth undertook an analysis of NSW's offsetting approach and determined that it is consistent with the *EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy*, as it included a requirement for additionality. The NSW assessment bilateral agreement does not specifically reference additionality as the agreement simply endorses NSW's existing offsetting approach.

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Answers to questions on notice
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Question No: 2

Hearing: Rehabilitation of Mining and Resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities

Outcome: Outcome 1

Program: Department of the Environment and Energy

Topic: Progressive rehabilitation conditions

Hansard Page: 8

Question Date: 14 February 2018

Question Type: Spoken

CHAIR (Senator Rice) asked:

CHAIR: Have there been any requirements for conditions relating to progressive rehabilitation of these mine site?

Answer:

Yes. The Department identified 21 approved mining projects under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) with progressive rehabilitation conditions attached (refer Table 1). Approval holders may also implement progressive rehabilitation practices as part of their conditioned management plans.

Table 1: EPBC Act approved projects with progressive rehabilitation conditions

EPBC number	Project Name
2003/1138	Wambo Coal Mine Development Project
2005/2270	Expansion of the Olympic Dam copper, uranium, gold and silver mine, processing plant and associated infrastructure
2007/3297	Moolarben Coal Mine Project
2007/3385	Kraft Pulp Mill and ancillary chemical production and infrastructure
2008/4463	Tropicana Joint Venture Gold Exploration Activities in the Group 2 and Group 3 T
2009/4984	Extension to existing Extractive Industry, Roseneath Quarry
2009/5081	Warkworth Mine Extension
2009/5174	Wiluna Uranium Project
2009/5256	Extension to Existing Operations at Boggabri Coal Mine
2010/5350	Extension of Underground Mining Operations at The Bulli Seam Operations
2010/5389	Ravensworth Operations Project
2010/5566	Maules Creek Coal Project
2010/5637	Kintyre Uranium Project
2010/5642	South of Embley Bauxite Mine and Port Development, Cape York Qld
2010/5707	Urquhart Point mineral sands project
2011/5795	Mount Pleasant Project
2011/5923	Tarrawonga Coal Project
2011/6061	Pine Dale Coal Mine Stage 1 Yarraboldy extension
2012/6339	DSO Hematite Mine
2012/6472	Silica Sand Mine, Mindijup, WA
2015/7569	Jemena NEGI Pipeline, NT to QLD