

Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Answers to questions on notice

Bureau of Meteorology

Committee: Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Inquiry name: Offshore Electricity Infrastructure (Regulatory Levies) Bill 2021 and Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Bill 2021

Question Type: Written

Deputy Chair, Senator Sarah Hanson-Young asked:

- 1. Given this emergent industry with the passage of this legislation, what sort of advice and publicly available resources is the Bureau able to make available on wind profiles and research in Australia's offshore territories?***

Answer:

1. The Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau) has a range of publicly available data and services that provide insights into wind profiles in Australia's offshore territories.

Offshore wind resources are described in most detail in the Bureau's Atmospheric high-resolution Regional Reanalysis for Australia (BARRA), that provides 29 years' of high resolution (12km) data at hourly time-intervals and a range of vertical levels. Information about BARRA can be found on the Bureau's website at <http://www.bom.gov.au/research/projects/reanalysis/>.

The Bureau is undertaking research to enhance BARRA under the Australian Climate Service (ACS) with publicly available data anticipated for 2025. The enhancements to BARRA being explored include greater detail (potentially down to scales of near 1 km), a longer period of data (approaching 40 years), better characterisation of confidence, and overall improvements in the wind dataset. In aggregate, these new data will provide the very best information possible to support wind resource analysis and monitoring.

The Bureau provides advice to government and industry upon request.