

Environment and Communications References Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Australian Academy of Science
Inquiry into Australia's faunal extinction crisis
8 October 2018

QUESTION 1: Hansard page 24 – Senator Urquhart

Senator URQUHART: We heard in earlier evidence, when I asked the question of the Conservation Foundation, that they were equally as supportive in terms of the information and getting awareness, but their view about the use of the term 'commissioner' is that it is incorrect, that it was controlled within a department rather than being independent of department and government. Is that the academy's view as well?

ANSWER:

The Academy has no position. The titling of an office holder is a matter for the government.

QUESTION 2: Hansard page 25 – Senator Urquhart

Senator URQUHART: Your submission talks about and comments on the lack of threat abatement plans for land clearing, fire regimes and climate change. We heard from Dr Taylor from WWF, who talked about, in particular, Queensland and the fact that there had been a lot of land clearing but no referrals in terms of the triggers under the EPBC Act. I'm interested in why you're commenting on the lack of threat abatement plans and why you think they're required. Particularly with Queensland, do you have any sort of particular information about why there may not have been any triggers in terms of referrals?

ANSWER:

The Academy has no additional information regarding the lack of triggers.