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: OoN 14. Predictions of levels of emissions

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 02 August 2021, Page 37)

QUESTION No.: 14

CHAIR: So \$21 million of taxpayers' money has been handed over to one gas company. Do we know how much pollution that is going to create?

Ms Bennett: That is all under investigation at the moment through the study. CSIRO and others are working on the associated emissions from that development.

CHAIR: So the money has been given but we don't even know how much pollution it's going to create?

Ms Bennett: Well, I think the money's been given to do the actual work. Is that correct? Mr Trotman: Yes, that's right. In terms of the sequencing, it's hard to predict what the level of emissions will be until the actual work is undertaken and done. Where my colleague Ms Bennett is coming from also is that some of this is subject to the court case as well. We can potentially take that on notice and come back with a more fulsome answer.

CHAIR: That would be helpful. Thank you.

ANSWER

The \$21 million in grant money has been given to the grantee to conduct gas exploration activities in the Beetaloo sub-basin. Please also refer to Question on Notice number 13.