

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Budget Estimates

29 May 2012

**Question:** BR21

**Topic:** Departmental Input into the Green Buildings Program

**Proof Hansard Page:** 73

**Senator Waters asked:**

**Senator WATERS:** I will flag them and if I do not run out of time I will come back to them. I want to move on to the Tax Breaks for Green Buildings Program. Did the department have any input into that program design process?

**Mr Clarke:** No, not to my knowledge. There is a fine point. The tourism industry perspective and of course the tourism sector builds and operates a lot of buildings. I am pretty sure there was some engagement in terms of its role in the overall energy efficiency policy debate. As an energy department, we would have had some engagement, but I am not able to recall any specifics at this time.

**Senator WATERS:** Perhaps you could take that on notice in either the tourism or the energy capacity.

**Mr Clarke:** Certainly.

**Answer:**

The Department was briefed by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency in the early stages of the design of the program.

As part of the program development, the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency established the Tax Breaks for Green Buildings Roundtable to seek industry input on program design. The Hon Tom Roper was appointed as the independent chair, and senior representatives from industry peak bodies, including the tourism industry, were invited to participate in the Roundtable. Tourism industry representatives included the Tourism and Transport Forum and Crown Ltd.