



**Australian Government**  

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**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

23 May 2017

David Sullivan  
Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Dear Mr Sullivan

The Department wishes to correct the record on QoN #94 from Additional Estimates in March 2017. The question relates to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

Part of this question, in particular #94 (question 4), requested details of Australian advocacy concerning the proposed AIIB Energy Strategy.

The response originally provided to the Committee stated that the AIIB released an Issues Note on the Energy Strategy for public consultation on 12 September 2016. I have been advised that the Issues Note was, in fact, released for public consultation on 14 October 2016 on the AIIB website.

We have updated the question attached to reflect this.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

John Larkin  
Assistant Secretary  
Banks and Infrastructure Finance Branch

**Question on Notice #94**  
**March 2017 Senate Estimates**  
**(Senator Whish-Wilson)**

**Question**

1. Has Australia advocated for the AIIB's Energy Strategy to be more accommodative of investment in fossil fuel power generation?
2. Did Australia advocate for the AIIB's Energy Strategy to be amended to better allow for funding of coal fired power stations?
3. What evidence did Australia present to support this advocacy?
4. What was the outcome of this advocacy?
5. Did the Department consult with the minerals industry in preparing its position in relation to the AIIB's Energy Strategy?
6. Did the Department consult with any other stakeholders in preparing its position in relation to the AIIB's Energy Strategy?

**Answer**

1. Yes. Australia's Director on the AIIB Board of Directors has advocated for the proposed AIIB Energy Strategy to facilitate investment in a range of sustainable approaches to address energy deficiencies in Asia, including investing in low emissions fossil fuel power generation.
2. See answer to question 1.
3. Australia drew on the International Energy Agency's World Energy Outlook 2016 as well as data from the Asian Development Bank on the number of people in the Asia-Pacific region without access to electricity.
4. Advocacy is ongoing. The AIIB released an Issues Note on the Energy Strategy for public consultation on 14 October 2016 and a subsequent Discussion Draft of the Energy Strategy for public consultation on 24 January 2017.
5. The Treasury leads on consultations on the AIIB's proposed Energy Strategy. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade supported Australia's Director on the AIIB Board to engage with regional member countries, members of Australia's constituency on the AIIB Board, and a range of Australian stakeholders from industry and non-government organisations.
6. See answer to question 5.