

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2014-2015, 25 February 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000074

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Wind Farms and Human Health

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

The NHMRC Report states: “There is consistent but poor quality direct evidence that wind farm noise is associated with annoyance, as well as less consistent, poor quality direct evidence of an association between sleep disturbance and wind farm noise.” What made the evidence about annoyance and sleep disturbance “poor quality”?

Answer:

The Information Paper states that, “the Reference Group examined each of the individual studies in terms of the factors discussed above [in Section 2.4] (including each study’s design, risk of bias and possible confounding factors, as well as the consistency of results between the studies). Based on these factors, all of the individual studies included as direct evidence were considered to be poor quality” (page 11).