

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2014-2015, 25 February 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000076

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Wind farms and human health

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Is the NHMRC aware of the Health Canada study into potential health impacts of wind farms undertaken last year and do they consider the Canadian study to be ‘low quality’ research as they have indicated in the 13 studies included in your report are?

Answer:

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is aware of the preliminary findings of a large epidemiological study on wind turbines and health released by Health Canada in October 2014.

Health Canada has emphasised that these results should not be considered final until they have been published in peer-reviewed publications and should be considered in the context of all published peer-reviewed literature on this issue.

Health Canada has also noted that analysis of the large volume of acoustical data collected in the study (including that related to infrasound) has not yet been completed and additional results will be released throughout 2015.