

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013

Question: E13-181

OUTCOME: 1 – Population Health

Topic: Wind Farms Review – Crichton Study

Type of Question: Hansard Page 33, 6 June 2013

Senator: Di Natale

Question:

I will get to the observers in a moment. I just want to go back to this timeline. We are talking about the last quarter of this year. I am aware that there has been some very important research published recently on this topic. In particular I am aware of the 2013 Crichton study, which was a seminal work in the area. There have also been several other reviews that have been done. Given the paucity of evidence in this field, I would like some assurance that that work is going to be included as part of the review.

Answer:

The systematic review on wind farms and human health is currently being undertaken by an independent reviewer. Searches were conducted for literature published up to October 2012.

The National Health and Medical Research Council is aware that more studies have been published on wind turbines since October 2012, including the Crichton study. The public consultation on the draft Position Statement and Information Paper will provide the opportunity for the public to submit any relevant new literature that has not been considered in the review. These studies will be critically appraised by the Reference Group and, where relevant, additional evidence will be integrated into the final Position Statement and Information Paper.