

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 146
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1.4
Programme: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: Discussions with Big Four Banks - meetings - location, attendees and issues discussed
Hansard Page: 12
Question Date: 11 May 2015
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Waters asked:

Dr de Brouwer: it is very hard to say, without some further reflection, whether we have had specific conversations about specific projects. But we do talk about sustainable development, the nature of resources and the nature of environment protection in Australia. **Senator WATERS:** Okay. Can you just provide on notice for me the dates, the locations, the folk present at those meetings and the issues that were discussed, particularly whether or not that included the Galilee coalmines and the Abbot Point expansion. Do you recall—if any of the officers are in the room, hopefully they have a good recollection as well— **Senator Birmingham:** We will take on notice and provide what information can appropriately be provided in that regard.

Answer:

Departmental officers in the course of their normal business talk to businesses, including banks, about a wide range of matters relating to the Department's responsibilities.

The Department has no record of the Galilee Basin coalmine proposals or Abbot Point having been discussed at meetings with any of the four largest Australian banks.