

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

Question No: 51
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Science
Topic: National Environmental Science Program
Hansard Page: 62
Question Date: 23 February 2015
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Singh asked:

Senator SINGH: Is climate science still a feature and a part of the NESP?

Dr Kennedy: Yes, it is. It is one of the hubs within this program, and I believe it is called the Earth Systems Hub. I would have to take on notice the changes in the amounts of moneys that were previously allocated and are now allocated to that, but they are funding similar activities to those that used to be funded under the climate science program.

Answer:

- The National Environmental Research Program (NERP) and the Australian Climate Change Science Programme (ACCSP) were amalgamated to form the National Environmental Science Programme (NESP) as announced in the 2014-15 Portfolio Budget Statement.
 - NESP will support decision-makers to understand, manage and conserve Australia's environment with the best available information, based on world-class science.
- Existing funding agreements under both the NERP and the ACCSP are being honoured through to completion in June 2015 and June 2016 respectively.
- The ACCSP has been delivered in partnership with the CSIRO and the Bureau of Meteorology, in collaboration with the Australian Academy of Science and the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science.
 - ACCSP funding commitments are \$5.734 million each year for 2014-15 and 2015-16.
- Climate science research will be conducted under the NESP Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub (ESCC Hub). ESCC Hub will receive total funding of \$23.9 million over the life of the programme as outlined in the table below.

Year	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
ACCSP	\$5,734,000	\$5,734,000	-	-	-	-	
ESCC Hub	\$466,000	\$500,000	\$5,100,000	\$5,100,000	\$5,100,000	\$5,100,000	\$2,550,000
Total	\$6,200,000	\$6,234,000	\$5,100,000	\$5,100,000	\$5,100,000	\$5,100,000	\$2,550,000