

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

Question No: 191
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Policy Analysis and Implementation (PAAI)
Topic: Existing Resources Program
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 19 February 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. How many projects, work, programs or other tasks has the department started as a consequence of government policies or priorities that are required to be funded 'within existing resources'?
2. List each
3. List the staffing assigned to each task
4. What is the nominal total salary cost of the officers assigned to the project?
5. What resources or equipment has been assigned to the project?

Answer:

Resourcing for the Department of the Environment and Portfolio Agencies since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September 2015 is set out in the *Environment Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2015-16*.

There are no measures identified in this document that have been funded 'within existing resources'. All new measures were offset as required in the Budget Process Operational Rules.

Clean Energy Finance Corporation

On 3 December 2015 a new investment mandate was issued [the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (Investment Mandate) Directions 2015 (No.2)]. This mandate specifies that within the Corporation's investment activities there must be a focus on emerging and innovative clean energy technologies, energy efficiency, and the built environment.

(2 – 5). The investment focus is fully integrated within normal business. The CEFC was designed to be responsive to Government direction which is why the mechanism of the mandate exists. This is business as usual activity - there has been no additional cost or reconfiguration required to accommodate the new mandate and all the resources and equipment of the Corporation are assigned to and aligned with the new mandate.