

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

Question No: 88
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 2
Programme: Climate Change and Renewable Energy (CCARE)
Topic: RepuTex Projections Report
Hansard Page: 96
Question Date: 08 February 2016
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Reynolds asked:

Senator Ruston: Senator Back, it is probably worth commenting that this is not the first time that information that has been put out by RepuTex in this particular area has been inaccurate. There have been a number of times over the last few years where information has been put out into the marketplace that has been quite misleading. That is probably worth noting.

Senator BACK: Thank you. I have one question unrelated to that last line of questions.

CHAIR: Can I interrupt, to clarify one point. Minister, with that particular organisation, are you or the department aware of any of their reports that have been accurate?

Senator Ruston: I have only seen a number of times when they have been inaccurate.

CHAIR: It seems that there have been quite a few times when their predictions have been very inaccurate. I am just wondering whether they have ever got it right. Are we aware of any report from them that was accurate?

Dr de Brouwer: That is a hard question.

Senator Ruston: We might take that on notice.

CHAIR: Could you take that on notice, please? In terms of assessing their credibility, their track record might be very helpful for the committee.

Senator Ruston: Happy to do that, Chair.

Answer:

RepuTex provides energy market and greenhouse gas emissions analysis. It provides advisory services and has produced a range of publications on energy markets and policies relating to emissions. This includes modelling future projected emissions based on its own independent analysis.

Modelling of emissions is inherently complex and is based on assumptions and judgements about the growth path of future global and domestic economies, policies and measures, technological innovation and human behaviour. The Department of the Environment has not assessed the veracity of Reputex's analyses.