

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

Question No: 97
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 2
Programme: Climate Change and Renewable Energy (CCARE)
Topic: Projections - land clearing and deforestation
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 24 February 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Waters asked:

1. In reference to your carbon pollution projections from 2014-15 (document called Australia's emissions projections 2014-15), and in particular to LULUCF – I understand that on the basis of current regulatory arrangements (and excluding the impact of the ERF), you project that overall land clearing and deforestation will go down to 2020 and 2030?
2. Can I confirm that you have made those projections on the basis that the Queensland Vegetation Management Act stays the way it is now?
3. Can I also confirm that you have not modelled the impact of the Baird government's plan to roll back land clearing protections?

Answer:

1. Australia's emissions projections for 2014-15 show *Deforestation* emissions increasing to 2017, after which emissions are projected to decline nationally from 47 Mt CO₂-e in 2020 to 42 Mt CO₂-e in 2030, while remaining above 2013 levels.

More detailed information on the 2014-15 projections for LULUCF is included in the document *Land use, land use change and forestry emissions projections 2014-15*, available from the Department's website at <http://www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/publications/emissions-projections-2014-15>.

2. The 2014-15 LULUCF projections assumed no further changes to regulatory systems in place in early 2015. This includes the assumption of no changes to the Queensland Vegetation Management Act since that time.
3. No changes to the NSW land clearing regulations were included in the *Land use, land use change and forestry emissions projections 2014-15*.