

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

Question No: 112
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 2
Program: Domestic Emissions Reduction Division (DERD)
Topic: Climate models
Hansard Page:
Question Date: 2 March 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Roberts asked:

Please list your department's reasoning that climate models are fit for the purpose of identifying with high confidence the proportion of the 20th century warming that was human-caused as opposed to natural?

Answer:

Climate models are derived from local, regional and global observational data, and are based on established physical laws. Climate models continue to be refined and improved, representing many important climate processes such as air, land and ocean temperature, wind, and sea ice cover, with increasing accuracy.