

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 123  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 2  
**Program:** Domestic Emissions Reduction Division (DERD)  
**Topic:** Carbon  
**Hansard Page:**  
**Question Date:** 2 March 2017  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Roberts asked:**

Why has your department, staffed by carbon based life forms, use the term carbon pollution in describing carbon dioxide?

By carbon do you mean carbon dioxide? Does the department have some agenda that prevents you from using the correct terms?

Will your department now stop using the term carbon pollution?

**Answer:**

The terms 'carbon' and 'carbon pollution' are internationally recognised terms when referring to greenhouse gas emissions. The gases that are collectively known as greenhouse gases and reportable in the national greenhouse gas inventory are:

- carbon dioxide, CO<sub>2</sub>
- methane, CH<sub>4</sub>
- nitrous oxide, N<sub>2</sub>O
- hydrofluorocarbons, HFC-23, HFC-32, HFC-41, HFC-43-10mee, HFC-125, HFC-134, HFC-134a, HFC-143, HFC-143a, HFC-152, HFC-152a, HFC-161, HFC-227ea, HFC-236cb, HFC-236ea, HFC-236fa, HFC-245ca, HFC-245fa, HFC-365mfc
- perfluorocarbons, CF<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>F<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>F<sub>8</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>F<sub>10</sub>, C-C<sub>4</sub>F<sub>8</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>F<sub>12</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>14</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>F<sub>18</sub>, C-C<sub>3</sub>F<sub>6</sub>
- sulphur hexafluoride, SF<sub>6</sub>
- nitrogen trifluoride, NF<sub>3</sub>