

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

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 128
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 2
Program: Domestic Emissions Reduction Division (DERD)
Topic: General Circulation Model
Hansard Page:
Question Date: 2 March 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Roberts asked:

Why is your department not negligent when relying on GCMs (General Circulation Model) that have not been subject to the rigorous verification and validation that is the norm for engineering and regulatory science?

Answer:

The Government accepts the science of climate change and takes its advice on climate change, the risks posed and projections of future impacts primarily from our national science agencies: the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO. The Bureau and CSIRO cooperate with many other scientific and research institutions from around the world.

The advice is that there is overwhelming scientific evidence the climate is changing due to human caused emissions of greenhouse gases. These findings are informed by long term observations of air temperatures, measurements of ocean temperatures, and changes to glaciers, ice sheets and sea ice.

This advice aligns with information provided by respected national and international science organisations. These include the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Australian Academy of Science, the Australian Antarctic Division, the World Meteorological Organization, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).