

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

Question No: 241
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Program: Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)
Topic: Current temperature rises
Hansard Page: -
Question Date: 2 March 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Burston asked:

The BoM attributes current temperature rises to human industrial activity rather than the historical ebb and flow of global warming and cooling as part of the natural phenomenon of climate change. Is it true that temperatures were warmer in ancient Roman times and again in the Middle ages than they are today?

Answer:

The Bureau does not maintain palaeoclimate datasets for the northern hemisphere, and does not contribute significantly to such palaeoclimate reconstructions. This question is best directed to experts dedicated to that field.