

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

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

**Question No:** 251  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Program:** Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)  
**Topic:** Current temperature rises  
**Hansard Page:** -  
**Question Date:** 27 February 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. Which datasets are considered more accurate and reliable and why?

**Answer:**

A consideration of the reliability and accuracy of observational datasets is application-dependent. Researchers are guided by the peer-reviewed literature, and there is a wealth of such literature relating to observational data (see [www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/en/publications-library/technical-report/](http://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/en/publications-library/technical-report/)).