

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

**Question No:** 325

**Hearing:** Additional Estimates

**Outcome:** Agency

**Program:** Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

**Topic:** Empirical scientific evidence

**Hansard Page:**

**Question Date:** 6 March 2017

**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Roberts asked:**

1. Has GBRMPA ever been presented with empirical scientific evidence proving human causation of climate change and more specifically due to anthropogenic production of carbon dioxide?
2. If so, please specify the source and location of such advice being book/report/journal title, author(s) name(s), chapter number, page numbers, publisher.
3. If not, why not, and on what does GBRMPA rely for its view that human production of carbon dioxide is causing climate change that is threatening or destroying the GBR?

**Answer:**

1. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority has accessed empirical evidence which shows that the anthropogenic production of greenhouse gases is very likely to have contributed to the increase in the global mean surface temperature between 1951 and 2010.
2. One example of a recent source of this information is the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report. Specifically:

Bindoff, N.L., P.A. Stott, K.M. AchutaRao, M.R. Allen, N. Gillett, D. Gutzler, K. Hansingo, G. Hegerl, Y. Hu, S. Jain, I.I. Mokhov, J. Overland, J. Perlwitz, R. Sebbari and X. Zhang, 2013: Detection and Attribution of Climate Change: from Global to Regional. In: Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Stocker, T.F., D. Qin, G.-K. Plattner, M. Tignor, S.K. Allen, J. Boschung, A. Nauels, Y. Xia, V. Bex and P.M. Midgley (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA.