

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

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

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Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Environment Standards Division (ESD)
Topic: Tyre Stewardship Australia
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Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

Senator WHISH-WILSON: I just have a few quick questions. Tyre Stewardship Australia, TSA, was set up to increase domestic tyre recycling, expand the market for tyre derived products and reduce the number of Australian end-of-life tyres that I was sent to landfill. How are going with all that?

Mr McNee: I think you are aware that a lot of effort was put in by Australian governments including the Commonwealth government on developing Tyre Stewardship Australia and that scheme, so that is now up and running. The scheme has received authorisation from the ACCC to undertake its activities.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Feel free to take it on notice if you wish.

Mr McNee: One condition of that was that there was a review, and in fact a review has been initiated into that so we will be in a better position to report back on that in the future.

Answer:

The Tyre Stewardship Scheme was established to:

- increase resource recovery and recycling and minimise the environmental, health and safety impacts of end-of-life tyres generated in Australia, and
- develop Australia's tyre recycling industry and markets for tyre derived products.

The number of participants in the Scheme continues to increase. As of June 2016, more than 1050 participants were involved. The participants in the scheme now represent more than 50 per cent of tyre retail market volumes.

TSA continues to work with industry to develop timely, relevant and regular data, to monitor and report on recovery and recycling rates. A new data collection tool provides better information about the rates of end-of-life tyres going to environmentally sound uses.

End-of-life tyres are re-used in a number of different ways. Approximately 50 per cent are exported for use as tyre-derived fuel or for reuse or re-treading. Around 6 per cent enter the local market for tyre recycling with the production of rubber crumb being the key outlet. Other uses include local energy recovery, material use and recycling, and civil applications.

Levies collected under the scheme totalled \$3,828,740 for 2015-16. A full, audited set of accounts for the financial year is available in the 2015-16 Annual Report.