

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

Question No: 80
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 2
Programme: Emissions Reduction Fund Taskforce
Topic: EMISSION REDUCTION FUND - MODELLING
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 10 June 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

Can the Department provide any modelling conducted internally or contracted by the Department related to the Emissions Reduction Fund and its intended abatement achievements? Can the Department provide any research conducted related to the Emissions Reduction Fund and its intended abatement achievements? If there are no such documents can the Department explain how it came to the conclusion that the ERF would achieve the required abatement to reach the target?

Answer:

The Government published estimates of the annual profile of funds to be expended under the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) in the 2014/15 budget. The Department provided advice to the Government as part of the preparation of these estimates.

The Government will not disclose the details underpinning the budget estimates as to do so would undermine the Government's ability to achieve its policy objective of purchasing emissions reductions at the lowest cost through reverse auctions.

A number of avenues will be available for the public to keep informed of the emission reductions achieved through the ERF. For example, information on the amount of emission reductions that are achieved and the emission reductions contracted through the auction process will be available through the Emissions Reduction Fund Register. The Government will continue to track progress towards Australia's emissions reduction target through its national emissions inventory, updates of which are published on the Department's website on a quarterly basis.