

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

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Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1.6
Programme: Environment Quality Division (EQD)
Topic: Hazardous waste
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Senator Singh asked:

Mr McNee: There is a range of situations where other Commonwealth departments may, in fact, be involved in either the repatriation of some form of waste to Australia or, in fact, the export for final disposal. In that context we will work with those departments to ensure that the obligations of the legislation are met.

Senator SINGH: It would be useful to take on notice a list of the various government agencies that you connect with.

Mr McNee: Yes. We will do that. I am not sure that there is a consolidated list but we can certainly look at who we have dealt with.

Mr Edwards: Yes. We will do our best. I should add that we have quite a bit to do with state government agencies, because part of the process of determining assessments is obviously understanding local capacity and their happiness or concerns about certain movement of waste. We can certainly give you a list and we would include those agencies on that list for you.

Answer:

The Department deals with the following government agencies in regards to policy and regulatory matters relating to hazardous waste:

- Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency
- Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Communications
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Department of Health
- Department of Industry and Science
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- State and territory government environment protection authorities.