

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

Question No: 158
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 2
Programme: Climate Change and Renewable Energy (CCARE)
Topic: Member of the Board of the Climate Change Authority
Hansard Page: 78
Question Date: 26 May 2015
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Waters asked:

Senator WATERS: Apology for my lateness; I have just had another engagement that I actually ran here from, so I appreciate your patience. Again, pardon me if I go over some of the ground that the other senators have asked. I will try not to from the notes that I have been given. Was a part of the arrangement with Clive Palmer and the government to allow him to appoint a member to the board of CCA?

Mr Fraser: I think there were some discussions about that. We are not a party to the details of that or to the progress or lack of progress that might have been made in relation to that undertaking.

Senator WATERS: Does the minister have anything to add on that one?

Senator Birmingham: I am not aware of that.

Senator WATERS: Could you take that on notice, because I suspect perhaps the actual minister may well be quite aware of that.

Senator Birmingham: I can seek any information from the minister.

Answer:

As part of the agreement with the Palmer United Party to secure the passage of the Emissions Reduction Fund legislation, the Government agreed to task the Climate Change Authority (CCA) with a special review into Australia's future emissions reduction policies. The Government also agreed that the Palmer United Party could nominate one person to serve as an Associate Member of the CCA for the duration of the special review. As an Associate Member, the scope of the appointee's involvement with the CCA will be limited to the special review. The appointment will terminate upon completion of the review on 30 June 2016.

A process to appoint an Associate Member of the CCA is currently underway.