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

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Hearing:	Budget Estimates
Outcome:	Agency
Programme:	Clean Energy Regulator
Topic:	Emissions Reduction Fund safeguard mechanism consultation paper
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Senator Xenophon asked:

Did the government consult with the Regulator during the formation of the ERF safeguard mechanism consultation paper?

Given that the regulator has administrative responsibilities under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme, which forms the backbone of the safeguard mechanism, such consultation would have been vitally important, wouldn't it?

Answer:

The Department of the Environment undertook early and extensive consultation with staff of the Clean Energy Regulator during the development of the safeguard mechanism consultation paper. As the Clean Energy Regulator will administer the safeguard mechanism, the agency's input was focussed on ensuring early, informed and systematic consideration of implementation issues during the policy development process.