

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

Question No: 195
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Programme: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: Effectiveness of the ERF
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date:
Question Type: Written

Senator Xenophon asked:

Has the regulator provided any advice about the effectiveness of the ERF and whether the proposed safeguard mechanism will be strong enough to reach Australia's international targets?

Answer:

The Clean Energy Regulator has not provided any advice to the Government on the effectiveness of the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF). The agency has published information on the outcomes of the first reverse auction held in April 2015, and will continue to publish information on the increase in the number of Australian carbon credit units issued, which is a key performance indicator in the Environment Portfolio 2015-16 Budget Statements and reflects the amount of carbon abatement achieved by the ERF.

The Clean Energy Regulator has not provided any advice on whether the safeguard mechanism will be strong enough to reach Australia's international targets. This is a policy issue which does not fall within the remit of the Clean Energy Regulator.