

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

Question No: 197
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Program: ARENA
Topic: Date of discussions with Snowy Hydro
Hansard Page: 24 and 25
Question Date: 23 May 2017
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Carr asked:

Mr Frischknecht: Chair, sorry, Senator, I wonder if I could just clarify something that I said before the break in response to Senator Chisholm.

CHAIR: Yes, please do.

Mr Frischknecht: It was in relation to the length of time we had had discussions with Snowy Hydro before the Prime Minister's announcement and I said it was on the order of months. It was actually on the order of one month; so, it happened in February. I just wanted to clear up the record.

Senator KIM CARR: So what month was it?

Mr Frischknecht: It was during February that we had the discussions.

Senator KIM CARR: What date did you start that?

Mr Frischknecht: I do not know the exact date, but we can provide you with that.

Answer:

ARENA met with Snowy Hydro representatives on 24 February 2017 and 2 March 2017 (both at Snowy Hydro Sydney offices) on the proposed project as well as to outline the ARENA funding process.

ARENA received a draft of the application to ARENA for funding on 8 March 2017. The draft was revised and reviewed over the period to 13 March 2017. There was regular dialogue between Snowy Hydro and ARENA during this period.