

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

Question No: 100
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Environment Assessment and Compliance Division
Topic: EPBC BILATERAL AGREEMENTS IMPLEMENTATION BILL
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Waters asked:

What is the Department's understanding of the proposed new definition of authorisation process in EPBC Act s528 which appears at item 9 in the Bill? Would it allow the entire accredited process to be contained in non-legislative instruments such as guidelines or policies? The EM is unclear on this point, so can you please provide a more detailed explanation?

Answer:

Under the proposed amendments, processes set out in policies and guidelines must have a clear legislative basis to be accredited.