

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

**Question No:** 11  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Biodiversity Conservation Division  
**Topic:** DRAFT REEF 2050 PLAN - WATER QUALITY  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Waters asked:**

If we do need to cut run off of dissolved inorganic nitrogen by 70-80%, and the current target is 50%, and we've only managed 10% so far, has GBRMPA made any estimates of the funding required to achieve the "no detrimental impact" target?

a. What was GBRMPA's estimate of the level of investment required to achieve the above target?

**Answer:**

a. The Reef Plan goal and targets are by design ambitious and aspirational for all partners. Reef Plan pollutant-specific targets were based on the best available scientific information and will be reviewed as new information and tools become available. For example, a mid-term review of the Reef Plan goal and targets will be undertaken once the eReefs 'receiving water model' is complete, to link GBR water quality guidelines to pollutant loads entering the reef lagoon. The load reductions required to meet the 'no detrimental impact' long-term goal will then be refined and appropriate targets and actions will be identified. The cost per unit of pollutant reduction is variable, depending on the various factors, such as available technology, the region and the participating industries.