

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

Question No: 223
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Programme: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: WAUBRA WIND FARM - COMPLIANCE ACTIONS
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Back asked:

The CER has previously stated that it is satisfied that the Victorian DPCD is dealing with the issue of whether the Waubra wind farm is or is not compliant with state laws. More than seven months has passed for the DPCD to deal with the issue. Given the Strategic Direction Statement that states the CER will “monitor, facilitate and enforce compliance with the schemes it administers” and the obligation of the CER to ensure compliance with Commonwealth and State laws can you advise what actions the CER has undertaken to ensure the Waubra wind farm is compliant?

Answer:

The Clean Energy Regulator is not responsible for monitoring or enforcing compliance with state laws — that is the responsibility of state governments and regulators. The Victorian Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure has not advised the Clean Energy Regulator that Waubra wind farm is being operated in contravention of state laws and is currently finalising its reviews on this matter. The Clean Energy Regulator works closely with state authorities, including the Victorian Planning Department, to ensure the compliance of power stations in accordance with the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000* and associated regulations.

Please see also Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 Question 224.