

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

Question No: 32
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Biodiversity Conservation Division
Topic: REEF TRUST - OFFSETS
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Singh asked:

How much investment in the Reef does the Government hope to replace with offsets money?

Answer:

The Government does not intend to replace any investment with offsets money through the Reef Trust.

There is no definitive figure for how much the Government expects offsets will contribute to investment in the Great Barrier Reef.

The level of contribution will be dependent on the degree of environmental impact requiring remediation, with all contributions assessed in line with the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Once received, offset funds provided to the Reef Trust will be pooled and strategically utilised in line with the approval conditions to maintain or improve the condition of matters of national environmental significance within the Great Barrier Reef area.