

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

Question No: 369
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Policy Analysis and Implementation
Topic: REGISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATIONS - INVESTIGATIONS
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Waters asked:

How many, if any, organisations listed on the Register are currently under investigation including formal review of their DGR status? Who are they?

Answer:

The Department takes a range of compliance actions, which vary based on the circumstances. Compliance action can include informal actions that aim to assist organisations to fully comply with the law or, in the more serious cases, formal actions to remove the organisation from the Register. Depending on the seriousness of the offence, the removal process generally involves two compliance warnings. Organisations are given three months to respond to the warning. In 2013–14, approximately 40 compliance warnings were issued. In 2014–15, to date approximately 10 compliance warnings have been issued. The Department considers the organisation's response to the compliance warning, and takes further action where appropriate.

The Department does not identify organisations subject to compliance action nor comment on them due to privacy considerations.