

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

**Question No:** 99  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Environment Assessment and Compliance Division  
**Topic:** ENVIRONMENTAL OFFSETS  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Waters asked:**

The recent Senate inquiry into offsets made 21 recommendations to fix the existing EPBC offset policy. When do you expect a government response to that inquiry?

- a. Is work already underway on that response?
- b. When did work commence?
- c. How many FTE is currently committed to the response?
- d. Have you advised the Minister on the recommendations of the inquiry, including the Chair's report and the additional comments from the Australian Greens?

**Answer:**

The timing for an Australian Government response to the Senate inquiry is to be determined by the Government.

- a. Work is underway by the Department on the response.
- b. Work on the response commenced on 24 July 2014.
- c. Part of 1 FTE is committed to developing the response.
- d. The Department provided a brief to the Minister on 17 November 2014.