

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

Question No: 118
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Programme: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: ERF - Registered Projects
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Question Type: Spoken

Senator Back asked:

Senator BACK: With the Emissions Reduction Fund, can you give us a little information on how many projects have been registered, what types of projects they are and perhaps you can take on notice and give us some examples of projects that have now been registered under the ERF?

Mr Taylor: I can start with that. We have a table here that we could hand over at the end of the comments. The projects range right across Australia. The total number of projects is about 440 or 450, of that order. The number of credits that have been issued against those projects is currently around 16.3 million credits. They range across the forestry sector, landfill, livestock, there is fire management in the north, savanna fire management, the transport sector, soil carbon, electricity, and the mining and aviation sectors. We are starting to see very broad coverage across the economy in a range of projects around the country. Nearly every state now has a project or some projects registered in them. I think every state now has projects registered in them. So there is good coverage both sectorally and geographically under the ERF.

Answer:

1. As at 3 November 2015 there were 539 projects registered under the Emissions Reduction Fund.
2. These projects can be broken down by method type:

Method type	Number of projects
Agriculture	25
Energy Efficiency (Commercial)	8
Energy Efficiency (Industrial)	13
Energy Efficiency (Residential)	1
Industrial Fugitives	6
Savannah burning	55
Transport	5
Vegetation	313
Waste	113

3. Some of the projects registered under the Emissions Reduction Fund to date include projects to:
- capture and combust coal mine waste gas to produce electricity which in turn will create abatement from the displacement of electricity that would have otherwise been generated using a fossil fuel;
 - improve energy (electricity) efficiency across supermarkets and retail stores, petrol stations and distribution centres, including activities such as lighting upgrades, refrigeration, heating, ventilation and cooling upgrades, and installation of variable speed drives on supply fans to reduce usage during times of low occupancy;
 - change energy sources of existing groups of vehicles – the project will change the fuel source from conventional fossil fuel diesel for biodiesel, an energy source with reduced greenhouse gas emissions;
 - establish permanent plantings of eucalypt trees on land that was predominantly used for cropping and grazing for at least five years prior to project commencement, with the trees planted with sufficient density so that they will achieve forest cover; and
 - upgrade existing lighting with energy efficient lighting across a range of sites aggregated under the one project, in particular halogen down lights will be replaced with LED lights that have been approved under the commercial and public lighting methodology.