

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

**Question No:** 186  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1.5  
**Programme:** Environment Standards Division (ESD)  
**Topic:** Roe Highway Extension  
**Hansard Page:** 20-21  
**Question Date:** 13 November 2015  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Ludlam asked:**

**Senator LUDLAM:** Can you break that down into plain English, Mr Edwards, since you were in fact the decision maker? How do you find it environmentally acceptable to flatten more than 90 hectares of banksia woodland for a four-lane freight freeway through a wetland?

**CHAIR:** Senator Ludlam, we have another two minutes for the department—

**Senator LUDLAM:** I am asking for a plain English interpretation—

**CHAIR:** Between you and Senator Waters you have had your time allocation. Do you have any other direct questions on this?

**Senator LUDLAM:** That was a pretty direct question.

**CHAIR:** Would you consider putting other questions on notice?

**Senator LUDLAM:** I will do that.

**Answer:** The reasons for the decision to approve the Roe Highway proposal (EPBC 2009/5031) are set out in the statement of reasons, which is available at: [www.epbcnotices.environment.gov.au/publicnoticesreferrals/](http://www.epbcnotices.environment.gov.au/publicnoticesreferrals/).