

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

Question No: 92
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1.5
Programme: Environment Standards Division
Topic: Conservation advices - dates
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Question Date: 19 October 2015
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Canavan asked:

Senator CANAVAN: I understand all that. I only have limited time. I apologise for cutting you off—I am not trying to be rude. I would prefer not to come back, but this is a very important issue. Can I ask on notice for the dates that you did those checks for the conservation orders—the original checks?

Dr de Brouwer: Yes.

Senator CANAVAN: Also when the conservation orders were approved. What are they called—approved conservation orders?

Mr Thompson: Conservation advices.

Senator CANAVAN: When the conservation advices were made, for both the skink and the snake; and when the minister made the approval for this particular project. It is probably some time in 2014.

Dr de Brouwer: Yes.

Answer:

The conservation advices for the Yakka Skink and Ornamental Snake (amongst other species) were approved by the Minister on 29 April 2014, but were not placed on the Species Profile and Threats Database until later in May.

A verification of conservation advices was done using the Species Profile and Threats Database prior to the finalisation of the Queensland Coordinator-General's assessment report for the Project, which was approved on 7 May 2014.

The Minister approved the Carmichael Mine and Rail Infrastructure Project on 24 July 2014.