

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 182
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 2
Program: Domestic Emissions Reduction Division (DERD)
Topic: 2017 Review
Hansard Page: 17
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Question Type: Spoken

Senator Moore, Claire asked:

Senator MOORE: Is it possible to get, on notice, a list of the series of tasks that you are talking about? Could we get a full list of the various work that is being done now leading into the review?

Dr de Brouwer: Yes.

Senator MOORE: We had evidence from the previous set of witnesses of various things that were done, and I think some of that crosses over with the things you are talking to me in theory about.

Dr de Brouwer: It does, yes.

Senator MOORE: Could we get who is doing what and when, and whether it is part of an ongoing process or whether its particular focus is the 2017 review?

Dr de Brouwer: We will come back with that.

Senator MOORE: That would be good. I have some questions about that review. We have talked about it a lot, and I am just wondering whether the questions about how it is going to operate have been asked before.

Ms Wilson: As I think has been mentioned before, the government is yet to take decisions on the scope of the review or its process. I might just follow up on the secretary's comment. I think it is important to note that various work is already underway on future policies. There is the phase down of the hydrofluorocarbons. Light vehicle efficiency standards are already being investigated by the government. Measures are being developed under the National Energy Productivity Plan. As we know, ARENA and the CEFC are supporting the deployment of renewable energy. So we will make sure these sorts of policies are on that list that we have just taken on notice.

Senator MOORE: Wonderful, so it will be a list of that ongoing work?

Ms Wilson: Yes.

Answer:

A range of work is currently underway to inform climate change policies for the post-2020 period, and support the Government's 2017 review of climate change policies, as set out in the attached table.

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Work underway on post-2020 emissions reduction policies, and to inform the 2017 review of climate change policies

Initiative	Description
Hydro-fluorocarbon phase down.	The Government has committed to reduce imports and production of HFCs by 85 per cent below current levels by 2036. Work is underway to develop the details of measures to implement this commitment, through amendments to the <i>Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989</i> .
National Energy Productivity Plan	The Government's National Energy Productivity Plan commits to improving Australia's energy productivity by 40 per cent between 2015 and 2030. The development and implementation of measures under the Plan is ongoing.
Ministerial Forum on Vehicle Emissions	<p>The Ministerial Forum is conducting a whole of Government review of vehicle emissions, including examining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a fuel efficiency standard for light vehicles; • stronger noxious emissions standards for light and heavy vehicles; • improvements to fuel quality; and • other measures, such as information provision.
Low Emissions Technology Roadmap	The CSIRO is leading the development of a Low Emissions Technology Roadmap to identify and assess a number of potential clean energy technology pathways.
Independent review to develop a national reform blueprint for the National Electricity Market	Australia's Chief Scientist Dr Alan Finkel AO, is leading this process. A draft report will be presented to the Council of Australian Governments in December 2016, and a final report in April 2017.
Energy-climate change policy integration	<p>The COAG Energy Council, Australian Energy Market Commission and Australian Energy Market Operator are undertaking analysis, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of the impact of carbon mitigation policies at both the Federal and State level on energy markets. • A Future Power System Security program to study and address operational challenges for power system security arising from a changing generation mix. • Review of system security market frameworks to identify changes required to the regulatory framework to address system security challenges caused by a changing generation mix
Climate Change Authority Special Review	As required by the <i>Climate Change Authority Act</i> , the Government is considering and will develop a response to the Authority's Special Review report.
Audit and 2030 Strategic Plan for the Australian Innovation,	Innovation and Science Australia (ISA) are undertaking a performance audit of the Australian innovation, science and research system to establish a baseline for a 2030 Strategic Plan, and identify

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Science and Research System	areas where more benefit could be gained. It will provide an overview of the Australian RD&D environment, the players, activities, linkages, culture, investment and infrastructure; identify the key factors and drivers that enable a strong system, identifying differences across sectors if relevant; and consider the factors that can be directly influenced by governments (such as policy, programs, regulation, infrastructure, investment, and taxation). The audit will be presented to Government by the end of 2016.
Clean Energy Finance Corporation market analysis reports	The Clean Energy Finance Corporation produces a range of periodic reports about the role of clean energy in the Australian economy.
Australian Renewable Energy Agency Knowledge Bank	The Australian Renewable Energy Agency regularly produces analysis of the renewable energy technologies that are best suited to Australia's diverse geography and the energy needs of Australian households and businesses.