

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

**Question No:** 242  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 4  
**Program:** Science  
**Topic:** CSIRO Reports - Peer Review  
**Hansard Page:** 28  
**Question Date:** 21 October 2016  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Waters, Larissa asked:**

Senator WATERS: Is the feedback from those peer reviewers available, or can you make it available?

Mr Thompson: I do not think it would be possible to make that available at this point, short of the reports themselves being made publicly available. The content that they cover covers the content of the report, so I do not think that would make sense.

Senator WATERS: Will you be releasing those peer reviewed comments after you have published, finally, the actual review?

Mr Thompson: We will take that on notice. We have not given consideration to that yet.

**Answer:**

It is not standard scientific practice to make the comments of peer reviewers public. Comments from peer reviewers are provided to authors so that they can consider any implications for finalising the work.

Peer reviews found that assessment methods were consistent with international practice and unlikely to underestimate risks.