

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

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 333
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Program: Director of National Parks (DNP)
Topic: Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review – Report delay
Hansard Page: 73
Question Date: 17 October 2016
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Urquhart asked:

URQUHART: What was the reason for the delay in the public release of the review?

Ms Barnes: You would have to ask the minister.

Senator URQUHART: Minister, can you shed any light on that?

Senator Birmingham: I will have to take on notice the exact background there. I know there were a range of considerations in terms of the consultations being undertaken and the need to make sure that next steps were all well prepared and planned for.

Senator URQUHART: It is quite a long time.

Senator Birmingham: If there is something additional to what I have said there, we will take that on notice and see what we can provide.

Answer:

The Government wanted to fully consider the findings and recommendations from the Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review reports before releasing them publicly.