

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

Question No: 51
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Science
Topic: Research Funding
Hansard Page: n/a
Question Date: 01 November 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

Governments often look for alternative sources of research funding. Has the department sought funding from other sources such as public private partnerships (other than with universities) and / or crowd funding? Can we have details of this? What was successful? What wasn't?

Answer:

The National Environmental Science Program guidelines (2014) require grantees to provide at least an equivalent level of co-investment in research, through cash and/or in-kind contributions. This co-investment is the responsibility of the recipient organisations, and not sought directly by the department.

The Supervising Scientist Branch has had an annual research funding agreement with Energy Resources of Australia Limited (ERA) since 1994. ERA contributes funding to the Branch's research program based upon a formula using the *Non-farm GDP-implicit price deflator* index, but ERA does not determine the research program nor its results.