

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Budget Estimates 2014-15
Monday 2 June 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Renewable Energy Investments

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 3 June 2014, page 25)

QUESTION No.: BI-8

Senator Ronaldson: From recollection, Senator Milne talked about dollars invested in renewable energy. I will take the exact question on notice as to where those investments are, but I note that there are investment companies like Victorian Wave Partners who have \$66.5 million; AGL has a large solar project at Broken Hill for \$166 million; and community energy programs provide more than \$400 million to schools, not-for-profits and households to install renewable technology. So to say that there is no support for renewable energy is not right. But I will take the bulk of the question on notice and we will get a breakdown of those investments for Senator Milne.

ANSWER

The Department of Industry notes that the 2014-15 Budget allocated \$1.059 billion from 2013-14 to 2021-22 for the provision of financial assistance by ARENA to projects developing renewable energy technologies.

As at 13 June 2014, ARENA had 174 projects under contract covering a wide range of renewable energy technologies, including \$166.7 million for the \$440 million AGL Solar Project at Nyngan and Broken Hill in NSW and \$66.5 million for the \$233 million Victorian Wave Partners Wave Power Station at Portland in Victoria. ARENA was also negotiating with the proponents of a number of other renewable energy projects, in addition to the 174 projects under contract on 13 June 2014.

ARENA maintains a list of projects, their locations, technologies and funding on its website at www.arena.gov.au/projects/.