

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Treasury Portfolio**  
Budget Estimates 2014  
3 June to 5 June 2014

**Department/ Agency:** Treasury

**Question:** BET 3671-3679

**Topic:** National Partnership Agreement on Asset Recycling

**Reference:** Transferred from the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development – 26 June 2014

**Senator:** Sterle

**Question:**

3671. How will the Commonwealth determine that a project to be funded “demonstrates a clear net positive benefit”? (section 16 (a) of agreement)
3672. How is “clear net positive benefit” to be defined?
3673. Will a BCR be required prior to a funding decision?
3674. Will the Australian taxpayer be provided with a BCR and reasons for a decision to fund (or not fund) a project?
3675. Will it be transparent?
3676. How will the Department be involved in deciding projects to be funded?
3677. How will Infrastructure Australia be involved?
3678. Is there any guarantee that either the Department or IA will be involved?
3679. What will be the Department’s role?

**Answer:**

3671. States and territories will be required to provide sufficient information to the Commonwealth that a proposed infrastructure project demonstrates a clear net positive benefit. The Commonwealth will then assess whether the state or territory has met the eligibility criteria.
3672. Clear net positive benefit means the benefits of the project materially outweigh the costs.
3673. Refer to the answer to Question 3671.
3674. The completed schedules to the National Partnership Agreement on Asset Recycling will be made publicly available. If Infrastructure Australia is involved in evaluating infrastructure proposals, it may publish its findings.
3675. Refer to the answer to Question 3674.
3676. Treasury will consult with other Agencies as required as part of determining whether eligibility criteria have been met under the Asset Recycling Initiative.
3677. Treasury will consult with Infrastructure Australia as part of determining whether eligibility criteria have been met under the Asset Recycling Initiative.
3678. Refer to the answers to Questions 3676 and 3677.
3679. Refer to the answer to Question 3676.