

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-15
23 October 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Reconciliation Action Plan

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Lundy

QUESTION No.: SI-81

In relation to item 2.3;

1. Why was the case study of savannah fire management as an approved offset method under the Carbon Farming Initiative which I believe was in the 2013-15 plan removed from the 2014-16 RAP?
2. Why have references to engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities on the issue on climate change been removed from the 2014-16 RAP?
3. Was any consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders taken before the aforementioned (a. & b.) changes were made?
4. Were these changes made under the directive or instruction of the Minister's office?

ANSWER

- 1-2. Portfolio responsibility for the Carbon Farming Initiative and engagement with communities on climate change moved to the Department of Environment as part of the machinery of government changes that occurred in September/October 2013. The Department's 2014-2016 RAP reflects its renewed business focus post the machinery of government changes and it was determined that the case study of savannah fire management no longer reflected the Department's business focus.
3. Consultation on the changes was undertaken with the internal Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders on the department's RAP Working Group.
4. No.