

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

Question No: 161
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Policy and Communications Division (PCD)
Topic: Portfolio wide - Reviews
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 4 March 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

What reviews are planned?

- a) When will each planned review be commenced?
- b) When will each of these reviews be concluded?
- c) When will government respond to each review?
- d) Will the government release each review?
 - i. If so, when?
 - ii. If not, why not?

Answer:

Department of the Environment and Murray-Darling Basin Authority

a-d) Please see Table 1 – Planned Reviews

Portfolio Agencies

The following Portfolio Agencies provided a 'nil' response for all questions listed above:

Bureau of Meteorology; Clean Energy Regulator; Climate Change Authority; Director of National Parks; Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority; Murray-Darling Basin Authority; National Water Commission; and Sydney Harbour Federation Trust.

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Table 1- Planned Reviews

Planned Review	a) When will the planned review commence?	b) When will the review conclude?	c) When will the Government respond to the review?	d) Will the Government release the review?	d.i) If so, when? d.ii) If not, why not?
Review of the Commonwealth marine reserves established by the previous Government	Yet to be determined	Yet to be determined	Yet to be determined	Yet to be determined	The terms of reference for the review are still under development
Review of the National Koala Conservation and Management Strategy 2009-2014	March 2014	June 2014	No – The results of the review will inform the development of the National Recovery Plan for the Koala, <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (combined populations of ACT, NSW and QLD)	Yes	December 2014
Maules Creek coal – Independent peer review and expert evaluation of information pertaining to the impact on the vegetation present and/or offset sites for the project	17 March 2014	25 March 2014	Yet to be determined	Yet to be determined	This is a decision for the Minister for the Environment
A review of the long term average sustainable diversion limit and the baseline diversion limit for the Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain sustainable diversion limit resource unit	May 2014	October 2014	Once the Murray-Darling Basin Authority brings forward a proposed amendment to the Basin Plan	Yes	After the review outcomes have been noted by the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council, which is proposed to meet in November 2014

Planned Review	a) When will the planned review commence?	b) When will the review conclude?	c) When will the Government respond to the review?	d) Will the Government release the review?	d.i) If so, when? d.ii) If not, why not?
Statutory review of the <i>Water Act 2007</i>	The review is expected to commence in early 2014	The review is expected to be completed by the end of 2014	Yet to be determined	Yes	A copy of the review report must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 15 sitting days after its receipt by the Minister