AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND RESOURCES

TOPIC: Analysis of the impact of climate change responses (relates to A1-102)

REFERENCE: Written Question

QUESTION No. B1-84

Senator Evans asked:

Following on the answer to AI-102 from the February 2007 hearings:

a) Provide the dates on which the Department commissioned work on the impact of various climate change responses?
b) How many such studies have been commissioned?
c) Have some of these been done by outside organisations? If so please indicate which organisations have been used in commissioning this work.
d) In relation to the work commissioned on sensitivity analysis in relation to various generation technologies of various climate change responses, when was this work completed?
e) What were the various climate change responses examined in this study? i.e. MRET, carbon tax, carbon emission trading?

ANSWER

a) During the period 2003-06 the Department commissioned a number of studies by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) on the role of technology under various climate change responses.

b) ABARE has provided five technology reports commissioned by the Department. These are:

1. *Excluding Technologies From the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target* (ABARE e-Report 03.12)
2. *Near Zero Emission Technologies* (ABARE e-report 05.01)
3. *Technological Development and Economic Growth* (ABARE e-Report 06.01)
4. *Technology: Its Role in Economic Development in Climate Change* (ABARE e-Report 06.06)
5. *Economic Impacts of Climate Change Policy: Role of Technology and Economic Instruments* (ABARE e-Report 06.7)

c) All of the Commissioned work referred previously has been undertaken by ABARE. The Department understands that the CSIRO was also involved in the fifth report listed above.
d) This work was completed with the publication of the reports. Report Number 1 was published in June 2003, Report Number 2 was published in January 2005 and Report Number 3 was published in January 2006, Reports Number 4 and 5 were published in July 2006.

e) The various climate change responses represented a range of policy frameworks which included a mix of technology specific programs such as technology targets (policy "pull" measures), increased technology R&D (policy "push" measures) or market based instruments. In most instances this involved using a carbon price signal (tax or emissions trading) in the model to directly or de-facto simulate or drive policy outcomes.

All of the reports listed above are available on the ABARE website.