

Response to Question on Notice BET-39 asked by Senator Milne

STATEMENT REGARDING THE SENATE ORDER CONCERNING THE G20 FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDY COMMITMENT

The Government supports the G20 commitment from the Pittsburgh Summit to rationalise or phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption.

Australia's response on this matter was finalised and submitted to the G20 on 11 June 2010, after the G20 Finance Ministers' Meeting in Busan two weeks ago.

The G20 Energy Experts Group is compiling a report to Leaders based on submissions from G20 members. It is inappropriate to pre-empt these processes by publishing Australia's response alone.

The Government understands that the publication of G20 members' responses to the commitment will be discussed at the forthcoming Leaders' Summit in Toronto on 26 and 27 June 2010.

16 June 2010