

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010**  
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

**Topic: The Renewable Energy Target**

**Question reference number: CC2**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA page 113**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Question:** (Senator Milne)

**Senator MILNE**—What would be the impact, though, in terms of the overall program and the price— Minister?

**Senator Wong**—Could I take that on notice, Senator?

**Senator MILNE**—Yes, all right.

**Answer:**

On 26 February 2010, the Government announced changes to be made to the Renewable Energy Target scheme (RET). From January 2011, the existing scheme will include two parts – the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme and the Large-scale Renewable Energy Target (LRET).

The changes will enhance the RET by providing greater certainty for households, large-scale renewable energy projects and installers of small-scale renewable energy systems like solar panels and solar water heaters. In particular, the LRET will ensure the market for critical large-scale projects like wind farms, solar and geothermal can develop and grow free from any uncertainty that may have been caused by strong demand for small-scale renewable technologies.

Representatives of the Department are available for additional briefing on the legislative amendments to give effect to the enhanced RET if requested by Senator Milne.