

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2009

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 2, Program 2.1

Topic: Australian Government Vehicle Fleet

Question reference number: F15

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Senator Ronaldson asked:

- (a) Minister, before the last election you promised to have 50 per cent of the government fleet made up of environmentally friendly vehicles. How is that target looking in light of the answer to the question on notice (*noting a target date of 2020*)?
- (b) Of that 7,900 vehicles, can you take on notice which of those vehicle types are meeting the 10 out of 20 score? I presume that V8s, the petrol turbocharged vehicles and the undisclosed number of turbo diesels certainly would not be meeting that?
- (c) How many of those vehicles are actually Australian made?

Answer:

- (a) The Government's *Green Car Challenge* stated that by 2020, 50 per cent of its passenger vehicle fleet will be Australian-made, value for money, environmentally friendly vehicles. Since the announcement, Ford Australia (Ford), Holden Limited (Holden) and the Toyota Motor Corporation Australia (Toyota) have each announced intentions to manufacture an environmentally friendly passenger vehicle in Australia.

Toyota will begin manufacturing its *Camry Hybrid* vehicle in Australia from March 2010. Planning for the introduction of the vehicle into the Government fleet is well advanced and the vehicle was presented to Government fleet managers in Canberra on 19 February 2009. Holden will begin manufacturing its yet to be named environmentally friendly vehicle in Australia from late 2010. Ford will begin manufacturing its 4-cylinder Focus in Australia from mid 2011. Discussions with Holden and Ford are ongoing.

In the meanwhile, the Government fleet continues to observe the existing environmental policy of promoting the selection of vehicles that achieve a *Green Vehicle Guide* score of better than 10 out of 20. For the most part, these vehicles are locally made and imported vehicles sourced from Australian vehicle manufacturers. As at 30 April 2009, 49 per cent of the Government's leased fleet (inclusive of commercial vehicles) exceeded the target score.

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- (b) Of the 7,900 leased commercial and passenger vehicles in the Australian Government fleet as at 30 June 2008, the following vehicle types achieved a Green Vehicle Guide score of greater than 10 out of 20:
- Four-cylinder passenger petrol powered vehicles;
 - Four-cylinder turbo-diesel powered passenger vehicles;
 - Hybrid (petrol / electric) vehicles;
 - Dedicated LPG and dual-fuel six-cylinder passenger vehicles; and
 - Some makes and models of six-cylinder petrol powered passenger vehicles.
- (c) Of the 3,347 vehicles achieving a *Green Vehicle Guide* score of greater than 10 out of 20, 1,431 vehicles (or 43 per cent) are Australian made.