

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2018

Environment and Energy Portfolio – Monday, 22 October 2018

Question No.	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing	Comment
1	Corporate: CSD	Senator Urquhart	Staffing per division	<p>Senator URQUHART: Can you step me through the staff in each area and division? You've outlined National Parks. Are you able to do the other areas and divisions?</p> <p>Ms Goodwin: I don't have the staffing per division listed in front of me, I'm afraid.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you provide that?</p> <p>Ms Goodwin: Yes, I can.</p>	Page 5	SQ18-000651
2	Corporate: CSD	Senator Urquhart	Budget	<p>Mr Cahill: Senator Urquhart this morning asked a range of questions about budgeting between the Director of National Parks and the department as a whole. We thought it was helpful that we take on notice to give you a fully integrated table so you can see how the movements have happened between last year's budget, portfolio additional estimate statements and this budget.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So you are going to table a table, are you?</p> <p>Mr Cahill: We'll table a table that encompasses all your questions this morning.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Have you done that?</p> <p>Mr Cahill: No. We will take that on notice and bring that back for you.</p> <p>CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr Cahill.</p>	Page 99	SQ18-000718
3	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Hanson-Young	Department media enquiries -	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Mr Cahill, are you aware how many media requests have been made of</p>	Page 15	SQ18-000653

			Environment portfolio	<p>the department since Minister Melissa Price has been appointed?</p> <p>Mr Cahill: I don't have the figure on hand, but we do keep track of those figures and we can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Could you? I'd like to know how many requests and how many were responded to.</p> <p>Mr Cahill: I'll take that on notice, Senator.</p>		
4	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Hanson-Young	Departmental meeting with President Tong	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes; understandable. I just want to go back to President Tong, the former President of Kiribati, for a moment. As you would know, Ms Evans, he was here in Canberra last week. He did try and meet with the minister and had a request to meet with the minister. Do you know if anybody within the department met with President Tong?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I'll have to take it on notice to be sure, but I'm not aware of anyone in the department meeting with former President Tong.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Do you know whether there was any request for anybody in the department, a request from Mr Tong and his delegation to meet with?</p> <p>Ms Evans: Again, I'll take it on notice, or you could ask it when I have my team with me at 9.30 this evening.</p>	Page 15	SQ18-000656
5	Corporate: CSD	Senator Stoker	Consultant expenditure	How much has the Department spent on external consultants in the 2017-18 financial year? How much of this was associated with the National Energy Guarantee (NEG)?	Written	SQ18-000633
6	Corporate: CSD	Senator Stoker	Department spending on electricity and gas	How much did the Department pay for electricity and gas FY15-16, 16-17, 17-18? How much in each financial year?	Written	SQ18-000634
7	Corporate: CSD	Senator Bilyk	Ministerial functions	In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio in the financial year commencing 1 July	Written	SQ18-000725

				2017, can the following please be provided: List of functions; List of attendees including departmental officials and members of the Minister's family or personal staff; Function venue; Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); Details of any food served; Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; Any available photographs of the function; and Details of any entertainment provided.		
8	Corporate: CSD	Senator Bilyk	Departmental functions	In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017, can the following please be provided: List of functions; List of attendees; Function venue; Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); Details of any food served; Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; Any available photographs of the function; and Details of any entertainment provided.	Written	SQ18-000726
9	Corporate: CSD	Senator Bilyk	Executive office upgrades	Were the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, upgraded in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive)?	Written	SQ18-000727
10	Corporate: CSD	Senator Bilyk	Facilities upgrades	Were the facilities of any of the Department's premises upgraded in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment? If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an	Written	SQ18-000728

				itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?		
11	Corporate: CSD	Senator Bilyk	Staff travel	What was the total cost of staff travel for departmental employees in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017?	Written	SQ18-000729
12	Corporate: CSD	Senator Bilyk	Ministerial overseas travel	<p>Can an itemised list of the costs of all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017 please be provided? This list should include the costs of:</p> <p>Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel;</p> <p>Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials;</p> <p>Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed;</p> <p>Meals and other incidentals for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided; and</p> <p>Any available photographs documenting the</p>	Written	SQ18-000733

				Minister's travel should also be provided.		
13	Corporate: CSD	Senator Hanson-Young	Staff trajectory	Can the department give an overall indication of its staff trajectory over the forward estimates? The Environmental Standards Division has had a decline of 100 jobs with 50 of these jobs going to create an Office of Compliance, is this correct? Can you explain what the Office of Compliance does? What happened to the other 50 jobs? What are the areas of biggest projected declines by outcome?	Written	SQ18-000795
14	Corporate: CSD	Senator Hanson-Young	Overall budget position	In general terms can the department outline the trajectory for its overall budget position over the forward estimates? Particularly in biodiversity spending and resourcing for those areas under Outcome 1.	Written	SQ18-000798
15	Corporate: CSD	Senator Urquhart	Employment under the Public Service Act	Over the past 24 months, how many individuals have been carrying out duties within your Department who were not engaged as employees under Section 22 of the Public Service Act? Please provide a breakdown showing categories of duties e.g. policy, ICT, program delivery. a. How many of these individuals have been providing services to the Department for greater than 12 months? b. What was the reason for not employing these individuals under Section 22 of the Public Service Act?	Written	SQ18-000838
16	Corporate: KTD	Senator Farrell	Administration Costs – New electronic equipment	What was the total cost incurred by the Department on new electronic equipment (including telephones, ipads, computers, laptops) for all Ministers, Assistant Ministers and Ministerial staff following the change of Prime Minister on 24th August 2018, and the subsequent reshuffle of the Government ministry on 28th August 2018?	Written	SQ18-000794
17	Corporate:	Senator Bilyk	Media monitoring	What was the Department's total expenditure on	Written	SQ18-000730

	PAAI			media monitoring in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017? Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all media monitoring contracts in that period please be provided?		
18	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Bilyk	Advertising and information campaigns	What was the Department's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017? What advertising and information campaigns did the Department run in the relevant period? Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in that period please be provided?	Written	SQ18-000731
19	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Bilyk	Promotional merchandise	What was the Department's total expenditure on promotional merchandise in the financial year commencing 1 July 2017? Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided? Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided?	Written	SQ18-000732
20	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Bilyk	Social media influencers	What was the Department's total expenditure on social media influencers during the financial year commencing 1 July 2017? What advertising or information campaigns did the Department use social media influencers to promote? Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided? Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided?	Written	SQ18-000734
21	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef Foundation – Communications	Has the Department offered any assistance to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation with regard to communications or media management?	Written	SQ18-000790
22	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef Foundation – media inquiries	Do staff in the Great Barrier Reef Foundation and the Department talk about media inquiries and share information?	Written	SQ18-000796

23	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef Foundation – communication funding	It has been reported that the Department decided not to use \$10mil allocated to it for communications to promote reef programs. Was the Great Barrier Reef Foundation going to contribute a portion of this \$10mil? a. If so, has that also been put on hold?	Written	SQ18-000797
24	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Hanson-Young	The Department's Annual Report 2017-18	Can you advise the status of the department's annual report, whether it was provided to the minister consistent with the PGPA Act, and advise when it will be tabled in parliament?	Written	SQ18-000799
25	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Farrell	Administration Costs – New Business Cards	What was the total cost incurred by the Department on new business cards for all Ministers, Assistant Ministers and Ministerial staff following the change of Prime Minister on 24th August 2018, and the subsequent reshuffle of the Government ministry on 28th August 2018 (please include production, design, and printing costs)?	Written	SQ18-000792
26	Corporate: PAAI	Senator Farrell	Administration Costs – New Letterhead and Personal Stationery	What was the total cost incurred by the Department on new letterhead and personalised stationery for all Ministers, Assistant Ministers and Ministerial staff following the change of Prime Minister on 24th August 2018, and the subsequent reshuffle of the Government ministry on 28th August 2018? (please include production, design, and printing costs)	Written	SQ18-000793
27	Corporate: General Council	Senator Keneally	Environmental Law – Stakeholder discussions	Has the Department had any discussions with stakeholders about updating environmental law? a. If so, which ones and when?	Written	SQ18-000800
28	Corporate: General Council	Senator Keneally	Environmental Law	Is the Department doing any policy work on environmental law?	Written	SQ18-000801
29	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Reef and Rainforest Research Centre (RRRC) Report	Senator KENEALLY: I flagged this earlier. I note that the officials are just coming to the table. I'd like to ask some questions regarding the crown-of-thorns starfish and the Reef and Rainforest Research Centre. Is the department aware of reports that a research agency, the RRRC, which received \$2 million from the government changed an independent review of the effectiveness of the government-funded crown-of-	Page 113	SQ18-000657

				<p>thorns program?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: Yes, we have seen those media reports.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. Is the minister aware that the altered report was accepted by the department and is on the department's website?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: I have to take on notice whether we have specifically conveyed the fact of the report being on the department's website. I'll take that on notice to the minister. But I also would say that it's not a report that was accepted by the department. The report was uploaded into the MERIT, which is a reporting tool, by the RRRC—that is my understanding. It was not a report that was required by the department as part of the agreement that we had under the Reef Trust with the RRRC at the time that that report was provided. My understanding is that the report at the time was submitted as 'draft in review'.</p>		
30	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	RRRC Report – website	<p>Senator KENEALLY: Again, the concern that I have now, and others have, is that this report has been relied upon. From what I have read, the author of the report would have a different interpretation to what you have just provided as to the conclusions of the report and whether the report reflects his conclusions. Given that this disagreement, as you've called it, has surfaced, will the department be reassessing this report? Will they leave it on the website?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: I haven't actually considered the question about leaving it on the website in the MERIT tools, so I will take that one on notice.</p>	Page 114	SQ18-000659
31	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	RRRC Report – impact to the Crown-of-thorns program	<p>Mr Knudson: We're not that generous, Senator! The substance of this is, as Mr Oxley has been saying, it is about the efficacy of the COTS mitigation program. I'm very happy to take on notice that we will follow up with GBRMPA on whether there are any implications with respect to this study and how GBRMPA is oversighting their COTS mitigations</p>	Page 114	SQ18-000662

				<p>efforts that would lead them to different conclusions or different approaches, so we can come back once and for all and deal with the issue about the efficacy of the program. That is what is material in this.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Yes, it is. Thank you. I appreciate that very much. Could I just add to that work that you are going to come back with, if you could be clear about whether this report has any impact on the crown-of-thorns program that's been funded through the Great Barrier Reef Foundation money that they are allocating to the COTS management?</p>		
32	1.1: BCD	Senator Rice	New South Wales Regional Forest Agreements	<p>Senator RICE: What's being done to ensure that the New South Wales RFA is consistent with the EPBC Act, given the proposed intensification of logging in New South Wales and fewer fauna surveys?</p> <p>Mr Dadswell: The regional forest agreements put in place support for ecologically stable forest management by the state agency.</p> <p>Senator RICE: By definition, any logging is ecologically sustainable forest management.</p> <p>Mr Dadswell: The RFAs have overarching principles in terms of maintenance of a CAR reserve system and of the application of ecologically sustainable forest management principles. Those practices are assessed on whether or not they will be consistent with ecologically sustainable forest management principles. If they are, they will be supported under the agreement.</p> <p>Senator RICE: How is that assessment going to be made?</p> <p>Mr Dadswell: That's the discussion that is occurring between the Commonwealth and the state at the moment.</p> <p>Senator RICE: But you're going to finalise the RFA within the next two months. What assessment have you done to determine whether the intensification of</p>	Page 115	SQ18-000666

				<p>logging practices is consistent with ecologically sustainable forest management?</p> <p>Mr Dadswell: Again, we talk with the state and ensure that their current and future proposed forest management factors are consistent with principles of ecologically sustainable forest management.</p> <p>Senator RICE: What assessment have they done? What have they done, with the proposed intensification, to ensure that its ecologically sustainable?</p> <p>Mr Dadswell: I don't have that detail with me. I'll take it on notice.</p>		
33	1.1: BCD	Senator Rice	New South Wales Regional Forest Agreements – Native title holders	<p>Senator RICE: Have native title holders for the Border Ranges been consulted on logging changes and the proposed intensification, when they have clearly said they don't want logging on their lands?</p> <p>Mr Dadswell: I will have to take that on notice. I'm not privy to that level of detail, which the New South Wales government might have done.</p>	Pages 115–116	SQ18-000668
34	1.1: BCD	Senator McGrath	Yellow crazy ant eradication program	<p>How much Australian Government funding has been committed towards the Yellow Crazy Ants Eradication program, since the program originally commenced?</p> <p>What are the expected outcomes of the Yellow Crazy Ants program?</p> <p>a. How effective has the YCA program been?</p> <p>b. Is the program meeting, or exceeding, the expected outcomes?</p> <p>c. In what way is it exceeding expected outcomes? When is the Yellow Crazy Ant program expected to complete its objective of eradicating pests in the Wet Tropics region?</p> <p>a. Does the program require further funding to achieve this objective?</p> <p>Would this program be a candidate as a template for future pest eradication programs in Northern Australia?</p>	Written	SQ18-000786

35	1.1: BCD	Senator Hanson-Young	Australia's biodiversity	What is the Department's current assessment on the state, trends and outlook for Australia's biodiversity?	Written	SQ18-000802
36	1.1: BCD	Senator Hanson-Young	Biodiversity decline	What are the primary drivers for biodiversity decline in the Department's view? What are the key mechanisms for addressing these?	Written	SQ18-000804
37	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	Reduction of funds to the National Landcare Program	How does the reduction of funds to the National Landcare Program demonstrate the Departments commitment to regional communities and the natural environment?	Written	SQ18-000856
38	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program delivery of Aboriginal engagement activities	How do the changes to the guidelines and outcomes affect the delivery of Aboriginal engagement activities?	Written	SQ18-000858
39	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program funding	What is the amount of funding awarded to each catchment region in Western Australia in phase two of the National Landcare Program? What was the funding awarded to each catchment region in Western Australia in phase one of the National Landcare Program? How many Western Australian catchment regions lost funding? How much funding was lost for each region?	Written	SQ18-000859
40	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program roundtable	Who attended the roundtable on the 7 th and 8 th of November?	Written	SQ18-000860
41	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	Phase one of the National Landcare Program consultation	In phase one of the National Landcare Program 19 Community Consultation were undertaken to inform the design and delivery of the program, given there were 900 submissions to the review why were public consultations for phase two not undertaken? How does the new design of the tender process seek to flexibility deliver on regional and local priorities? How do these changes provider regional NRM organisation funding and policy stability?	Written	SQ18-000861
42	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program	During the consultation period did the Department receive any letters from Western Australian members	Written	SQ18-000862

			consultation with the Department	of parliament advocating for NRM service providers and their concerns? - If so, which Members of Parliament contacted the Department? - What concerns were raised?		
43	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program consultation with the Minister	During the consultation period did the Minister receive any letters from Western Australian members of parliament advocating for NRM service providers and their concerns? - If so, which Members of Parliament contacted the Minister? - What concerns were raised?	Written	SQ18-000863
44	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	The Peel Harvey Catchment Council concerns	The Peel Harvey Catchment Council is the Service Provider for the Peel Harvey Catchment, during the consultation period they has raised concerns with new tender process and payments for grants in phase 2; how are the concerns being addressed?	Written	SQ18-000864
45	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program tender process	What is the department reasoning for moving to a tender process?	Written	SQ18-000865
46	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program grants-based approach	Why does the governments want to move away from the previous grants-based approach?	Written	SQ18-000866
47	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	Phase two of the National Landcare Program submissions	What actions were undertaken in the review of the submissions to phase two of the National Landcare Program?	Written	SQ18-000867
48	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program – consultation with service providers	What further consultation was undertaken by the Department to address concerns of service providers as to the payment in arrears for projects completed?	Written	SQ18-000868
49	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program Phase Two – design of the tender process	How did the department design the tender process for the National Landcare Program Phase Two?	Written	SQ18-000869
50	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare	How many jobs will be lost in Western Australian	Written	SQ18-000870

			Program jobs in Western Australia	due to the 20% cut to the National Landcare Program?		
51	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	NRM funding	How does the Department plan to apply changes to cash and in-kind co-contributions in determining the amount of funding available to NRM groups?	Written	SQ18-000871
52	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	Western Australian NRMS	In Western Australia NRM delivery groups are incorporated, not-for-profit, community-based NGOs rather than state statutory authorities (like on the East Coast). Has the Department given specific consideration to Western Australian NRMS in regards to cash and in-kind co contributions and how this will affect the grants process?	Written	SQ18-000872
53	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	Delivery of NRM services in Western Australia	Many NRM groups in both Western Australia and Queensland forced to risk trading toward insolvency event in order to NRM Services and NRM jobs in the region whilst awaiting for 'in-arrears' payment. How is the government addressing the substantial threat to the delivery of NRM services in Western Australia as under a tender system, where contracted works are undertaken by organisation and paid for at completed?	Written	SQ18-000873
54	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	Proposed timelines for grants in phase two of the National Landcare Program	What are the Departments proposed timelines for grants in phase two, from receipt of application to award of tender?	Written	SQ18-000874
55	1.1: BCD	Senator Pratt	National Landcare Program - expected length of grants under phase two	What is the expected length of each grant awarded under phase two of the program from time of award to payment?	Written	SQ18-000875
56	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef Foundation – Grant Costings	Noting that Minister Price has given a variety of figures in Question Time about the administration costs for the GBR Foundation grant, what is the correct figure that can be spent on administration under the Partnership Agreement with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation? a. Why did it take the Minister almost twenty-four hours to correct the record?	Written	SQ18-000754

				<p>b. In the time between when the Minister misled Parliament and when she corrected herself, did the Department provide any advice to the Minister or her office on this figure?</p> <p>c. Did the Department offer any legal advice, formal or informal, to the Minister or her office on what “misleading Parliament” means and the potential implications of this action?</p> <p>d. Have any other departments been consulted on what “misleading Parliament” means and the potential implications of these actions?</p> <p>e. What is the Department now doing to prevent the Minister from providing an incorrect figure to the Parliament, and then taking almost twenty-four hours to correct the record?</p>		
57	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef Foundation – Contact with Department	<p>Has the Department been in contact with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation since they were given almost half a billion dollars?</p> <p>a. How often?</p> <p>b. In what capacity?</p> <p>c. Which part of the department deals with the Foundation?</p>	Written	SQ18-000775
58	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef Foundation – Assistance from Department	<p>Has the Department offered any assistance to the GBR Foundation?</p> <p>a. If so, what kind of assistance and when?</p> <p>b. Have any staff assisted the Foundation?</p>	Written	SQ18-000776
59	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef Funding	<p>How much funding is allocated to the Great Barrier Reef?</p> <p>a. Specifically, what about funding for the last financial year that is separate to \$443mil grant to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation?</p>	Written	SQ18-000777
60	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef Funding – Comparisons	<p>How much more funding has been given away to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation compared to what is given to the Department?</p>	Written	SQ18-000778
61	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef – Programs	<p>Have Department programs been reviewed as a result of the lack of confidence that the now-Treasurer and Prime Minister had in your ability to deliver results</p>	Written	SQ18-000779

				for the Reef? a. Is the Department confident it can deliver results with the remaining funding it has allocated to reef programs?		
62	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef - Staffing	Have staff numbers specifically working on Reef-related projects increased or decreased?	Written	SQ18-000780
63	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Great Barrier Reef – related projects	What is the future funding profile for the Department’s work on reef related projects?	Written	SQ18-000781
64	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	The Reef Trust	What is the Reef Trust? a. What is its future funding profile? b. Why was it set up? c. Is it under legislation? d. What funding has gone in to it?	Written	SQ18-000782
65	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	The Reef Trust – Funding	Then-Minister Greg Hunt said in September 2013 that “The Reef Trust will combine both Commonwealth and private funds to focus on improving coastal habitat and water quality along the Great Barrier Reef”. Have any funds been raised by the Reef Trust, whether leveraged from partners or the private sector? a. If so, how much, and who contributed these funds?	Written	SQ18-000783
66	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	The Reef Trust – Review	Has the impact of the Reef Trust been reviewed? a. Will it be reviewed in the future?	Written	SQ18-000784
67	1.1: HRMD	Senator Keneally	The Reef Trust – funding allocations	Why didn’t the government keep the significant funding given to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation in the Reef Trust?	Written	SQ18-000785
68	1.1: HRMD	Senator Waters	IPCC Report – Implications of jobs	The IPCC 1.5C report states that by 2050, 98% of the world’s coral reefs will be lost at 2C and by 2100, more than 99% will be lost. Yet the Government’s emissions reduction targets are consistent with a rise of 3-4C. And even at 1.5C, we will lose 70-90% of the world’s coral. What implications does the government think this will have for the 64,000 jobs dependent on a healthy Reef?	Written	SQ18-000853
69	1.2: KTD	Senator Urquhart	Environment Research Programs	How much funding is allocated to environment research programs? How much has been spent? What investments are there?	Written	SQ18-000719

				When did contracts start? When will they finish?		
70	1.2 KTD	Senator Waters	Bioregional Assessment Program	Regarding the list of plans and strategies not yet approved that are required under the approval conditions for the Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project (EPBC 2010/5736): The Australian Government's website states that 'The Bioregional Assessment Program is expected to be completed in 2018'. Can the Department confirm that this timeline is still on track? Will the Department release a completed Bioregional Assessment for the Lake Eyre Basin, including the Galilee Basin subregion, before the end of 2018?	Written	SQ18-000846
71	1.2: BCD	Senator Waters	Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal and Coal Seam Gas – Review of management plans	How often do you review management plans, including water management plans, required by conditional approvals? Are any reviews of management plans, or advice given to the Minister regarding them, made public? If IESC does not conduct any reviews of such plans, does the Minister seek your advice on which body external to the Environment Department (eg CSIRO) should do so?	Written	SQ18-000839
72	1.4: BCD	Senator Rice	Leadbeater Possums – Listing assessment date	Senator RICE: I want to ask about Leadbeater's possums and where we're currently at with them. You might be surprised. They are critically endangered and recognised as one of the 10 most at-risk species in the entire world. We have the consultation document on listing eligibility and conservation actions, which was released a few months ago for the consultation—that's correct? Mr Richardson: Yes, Senator. The reassessment by the Threatened Species Scientific Committee was released for public comment some months back. Senator RICE: That recommendation was that Leadbeater's possums were eligible for critically endangered status?	Page 101	SQ18-000672

				<p>Mr Richardson: That was the proposed conclusion. The purpose of the public comment, of course, was to gain further information that could inform the assessment.</p> <p>Senator RICE: The request for submissions closed on 16 August.</p> <p>Mr Richardson: That's correct.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Two months ago now. How long until the listing assessment of Leadbeater's possums is expected to be completed?</p> <p>Mr Richardson: The date for the listing assessment was in fact extended in late August or early September—I can get you the exact date on notice—at the request of the Threatened Species Scientific Committee to be able to properly take account of the comments that were received through that public comment process. The original deadline for the assessment to be completed and provided to the minister for consideration was 30 September, and the committee sought, and the minister granted, an extension of that deadline until the end of March 2019.</p>		
73	1.4: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Sydney Opera House briefing	<p>Mr Oxley: If I may—and prompted by the more detailed questioning from Senator Keneally: in my initial evidence I indicated that the minister had not sought briefing in relation to the Sydney Opera House, and that is not correct. The minister did when this was an issue that was live in public discourse seek briefing from the department, so I apologise for giving that wrong information to the Senate.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: So, this was before the images were projected onto the exterior?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: And I presume that advice would have provided the information of what the conservation management plan says?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: I'd have to take that on notice, Senator.</p>	Pages 103–104	SQ18-000673

74	1.4: HRMD	Senator Urquhart	World Heritage Committee – Staff attendance	<p>Mr Oxley: The World Heritage Committee meets annually. We will be on the committee for four meeting cycles. There is intersessional work, which we will be engaged in, around many areas of policy work. One example is that, at the committee meeting in Bahrain this year, we were successful in initiating a review of the nomination process that is conducted by the World Heritage Committee each year. We expect to be actively engaged in that review process, and that invariably will see us attending a major workshop of states parties and advisory bodies at some stage in the next six months or so.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many staff attend?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: I'm trying to think—it's complicated. I have a core staff of about eight who work on World Heritage. We've supplemented that by—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So they all attend the meetings?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: No, they don't all attend the meetings.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many attend the meetings?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: It may be easiest to take it on notice. I think we had a delegation of three or four in Bahrain plus our two contracted experts.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Could you take on notice the details around the numbers?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: Of course.</p>	Page 105	SQ18-000677
75	1.4: HRMD	Senator Urquhart	World Heritage Committee – Resignation	<p>Senator URQUHART: My final question on that is: can Australia resign from the committee, and, if so, how does it do that? You're there for four years.</p> <p>Mr Oxley: I guess it would be possible to resign.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: You guess, or you can?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: I think if a country—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: If you don't know, it's okay to take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Oxley: I'm just trying to imagine circumstances in which that might actually be proposed, with Australia</p>	Page 105	SQ18-000678

				having actively sought the opportunity to join the World Heritage Committee. I'm happy to take it on notice. I don't know whether there is precedent or not. Senator URQUHART: If you could take it on notice, that would be great.		
76	1.4: HRMD	Senator McKim	Geeves Effect proposal	Senator McKIM: Are you aware of a proposal called the Geeves Effect? Mr Oxley: Yes, very broadly. Senator McKIM: So you're aware that it is a proposal for a multiday walk with built accommodation inside the wilderness zone of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area? Mr Oxley: Yes. Senator McKIM: Do you concede that, if that were proceeded with, it would fit outside the framework of the management plan, because it is inside the wilderness area, in which developments of that type are explicitly never permitted? Mr Oxley: I'm not in the position where I would be able to concede anything. What I am able to indicate is that a proposal such as that, were it to be taken forward, I would expect would need to be referred and assessed under the EPBC Act. Senator McKIM: Would you take on notice my question about whether or not it's a permitted use or a prohibited use under the 2016 management plan? Mr Oxley: Yes, we'll take it on notice.	Page 107	SQ18-000680
77	1.4: HRMD	Senator McKim	Geeves Effect – Consultation	Senator McKIM: Did the department have anything to do with the awarding of the \$70,000 for this completely not permitted proposal under the management plan that your department has its logo on the front page of? Mr Oxley: I do not believe so. Senator McKIM: Were you consulted in any way by any other government agency on that \$70,000? Mr Oxley: We'll take that on notice. Senator McKIM: That's \$70,000 for the demand	Page 107	SQ18-000682

				<p>study for the so-called Geeves Effect. You're going to take on notice whether you were consulted in any way?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: Yes.</p>		
78	1.4: HRMD	Senator McKim	Tourism master plan for the Tasmanian Wilderness Heritage Area	<p>Senator McKIM: Given UNESCO's concern, Mr Oxley, at the lack of progress, which I think you've said is a reasonable summation, firstly, does the department share that and, secondly, what steps have you taken with the Tasmanian government to try to accelerate the glacial progress of developing this master plan, particularly in the context of the 27 different proposals for developments inside the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area that will be assessed under a completely inadequate and ad hoc process?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: And will also be assessed under the EPBC Act.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Are you saying all proposals?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: I'm not sure about all, but I do know there was a point in time, I think it was last year, where the department, after the first process that identified about a dozen prospective proposals—and my recollection is that the department actually wrote to each of the proponents to make sure they had a proper understanding of the referral requirements under the EPBC Act.</p> <p>Senator McKIM: Perhaps you could take on notice the second tranche and what the department has done?</p> <p>Mr Oxley: Yes. In terms of the importance of the tourism master plan, yes, the department sees the tourism master plan as a very important commitment that is made in the management plan. We would like to see it progressed. I do note that today was the closing day for a request for tender process, which the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service had advertised, to engage a consultant to assist them with the development of the tourism master plan.</p>	Page 109	SQ18-000684

79	1.4: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Sydney Opera House – Briefing	<p>Senator KENEALLY: The advice that you provided to the minister regarding the Opera House and the advertising, can we clarify whether the advice was a brief for noting, a decision brief or another form of advice like a question time brief?</p> <p>Mr Pratt: That would go to the nature and content of our advice. We will take that on notice. It is up to the minister as to whether or not she would want to release that information.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you, Mr Pratt.</p>	Page 112	SQ18-000686
80	1.4: HRMD	Senator Keneally	Crown-of-thorns starfish and the Reef and Rainforest Research centre	<p>During Estimates, Senator Keneally asked:</p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: I'd like to ask some questions regarding the crown-of-thorns starfish and the Reef and Rainforest Research Centre. Is the department aware of reports that a research agency, the RRRC, which received \$2 million from the government changed an independent review of the effectiveness of the government-funded crown-of-thorns program?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Oxley: Yes, we have seen those media reports.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. Is the minister aware that the altered report was accepted by the department and is on the department's website?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Oxley: I have to take on notice whether we have specifically conveyed the fact of the report being on the department's website. I'll take that on notice to the minister.</i></p> <p>Was the Minister aware that the altered report was available on the Department's website?</p> <p>a. Given that this disagreement, as you've called it, has surfaced, will the Department be reassessing this report?</p> <p>b. Will the report remain on the Department's website?</p> <p>c. Mr. Knudson indicated that he'd consult with GBRMPA regarding the efficiency of COTS control programs. What was the result of this consultation?</p>	Written	SQ18-000805
81	1.4: HRMD	Senator	Commonwealth	What are the costs and benefits of current	Written	SQ18-000735

		Leyonhjelm	Government intervention Great Barrier Reef	Commonwealth Government intervention with respect to the Great Barrier Reef, vis-à-vis transferring existing agencies, staff, resources and funding to the Queensland state government?		
82	1.4 HRMD	Senator Siewert	World Heritage listing of the Aboriginal petroglyphs of the Burrup	Given the WA Government and the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation, together with the Australian Heritage Council now support the World Heritage listing of the Aboriginal petroglyphs of the Burrup, why is the Federal Government now delaying putting the area on the Tentative World Heritage List? Has the Federal Government received any notification from the WA Government that it a. supports the World Heritage listing, and b. supports its inclusion on the tentative list? Has the Federal Government had any contact with WA Government to advance the tentative listing? If not, why not? Tentative listing is a relatively straight forward process given all the information that the Commonwealth has, why won't the Government put it on tentative list now?	Written	SQ18-000749
83	1.4 HRMD	Senator Siewert	Total pollution from industrial activities on the Burrup	Is there a calculation of the total pollution load from all industrial activities on the Burrup? If not, why not, given that it is the total load which impacts the rock art? Will the Federal Government now seek a full analysis of the total load?	Written	SQ18-000750
84	1.4 HRMD	Senator Keneally	Sydney Opera House – Everest Advertising	During Estimates, Senator Keneally asked: <i>Senator KENEALLY: Had the department provided any advice whatsoever to the minister regarding this matter, either before or after the Everest advertisement was broadcast on the Sydney Opera House?</i> <i>Mr Oxley: Senator, I just—</i> <i>Senator KENEALLY: Briefings, question time notes, media advice, advice from media statements?</i> <i>Mr Oxley: Firstly, we have provided advice to the</i>	Written	SQ18-000808

				<p><i>minister in the context of—so, yes, briefing to the minister. A briefing has been provided to the minister.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: Subsequent to the broadcast on the Opera House?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Oxley: Probably in about the same time frame as that was all playing out.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: It sounds like you don't have a date. Can we put that on notice?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Oxley: Yes, of course.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. I'll ask: is it possible to get a copy of that advice?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Oxley: I don't think our usual practice is to provide the advice we provide to the minister to the Senate.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Pratt: In order to be helpful, we will take that on notice.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you, Mr Pratt.</i></p> <p>Will the Department provide any briefings or advice provided to the Minister or their office surrounding the Everest advertisement broadcast on the Sydney Opera House?</p> <p>Will the Department provide any briefings or advice provided to the Minister or their office surrounding the Everest advertisement broadcast on the Sydney Opera House?</p> <p>a. What date was this advice requested?</p> <p>b. What date was this advice provided?</p> <p>c. Did this advice constitute a brief for noting, a decision brief or another form of advice, such as a question time brief?</p> <p>d. Did that advice make specific reference to the conservation management plan?</p>		
85	1.4 HRMD	Senator Hanson-Young	Protection of whales	Can the Department outline any plans to protect whales in the Southern Ocean this summer?	Written	SQ18-000811
86	1.4 HRMD	Senator Waters	Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area	Does the Government believe the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area is In Danger from climate change?	Written	SQ18-000840

87	1.5: ESD	Senator Hanson-Young	Leigh Creek Energy project - correspondence	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Brilliant. Mr Manning, has the Leigh Creek Energy project come across your desk at all?</p> <p>Mr Manning: It's a project that I am aware of, but it is not a project that has been specifically referred to the department. It was drawn to our attention by a third party. I think it was the Environmental Defenders Office or someone of that nature who drew it to our attention.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: So it's been brought to your attention. What role do you have to look at the environmental impact of that project as it is today?</p> <p>Mr Manning: Consistent with normal practices under the EPBC Act, in the first instance it's a matter for the proponent to consider whether a project is likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance. I understand the proponent went through that process and came to the conclusion that it was not something that warranted referral to us. When it was drawn to our attention, I believe we wrote to the proponent and reminded them of their obligations under the act. I believe they provided further information to us in relation to the project at that point in time.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Would you be able to table any of that correspondence?</p> <p>Mr Manning: I could take that on notice; I don't have it here with me tonight.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes, you could take that on notice. Do you have any recollection of how long ago that was?</p> <p>Mr Manning: Not specifically. I would have to take on notice exactly when it was, but it was in the last six months. I think that was the period of time.</p>	Pages 89-90	SQ18-000688
88	1.5 ESD	Senator Hanson-Young	Leigh Creek Energy project – Aboriginal land	<p>Mr Manning: From our perspective, we looked into it based on the information that the proponent provided to us, and we got further advice in relation to it. In</p>	Page 90	SQ18-000690

				<p>essence, what we discovered through that process is that there is no MNES in the immediate vicinity at the surface level that we would be concerned about. It's situated in a degraded old coalmine itself, so there were no MNES present for us to be concerned about in that place. In terms of the surface water run-off, we looked at that and we were satisfied the water would tend to run towards the site, not away from it, so we are not concerned about indirect impacts of surface water run-off. We also looked at the potential for underground impacts, including getting some advice from the Office of Water Science to help us look at that. We were satisfied on that basis that the proposed area was surrounded by aquitards, so there were very low-permeability areas, and no credible pathways, based on the information we had, of an impact to groundwater as well. On the back of all of that, we concluded that we really didn't have any basis upon which to make a different judgement to what the proponent had in relation to likely impacts on matters of national environmental significance.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Was it a concern to you that the same practice has been banned in Queensland? Do you take that into account?</p> <p>Mr Manning: From my perspective, I don't have a view on the policy of the nature of the production. Under the act, we're required just to look at the likely impacts on matters of national environmental significance and make our judgements from that perspective.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Is there any ability to have an independent assessment of those potential concerns that were raised by the third party?</p> <p>Mr Manning: If necessary; as with all of our assessments and approvals work, if we feel there is a need to get some further advice then it's open for us to go and do that. We draw upon that from time to time</p>		
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				<p>as needed.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: This project has been couched as a trial. If it weren't a trial, would that have triggered any further investigation or concern?</p> <p>Mr Manning: Yes, that's a good point. You're right—it is small-scale; from what we understand, it's just the one gasifier, and it's only a two- to three-month demonstration, as we understand it. I can't be definitive, because, unless we had a referral to go on, it's hard to say. But if it were a much larger project, a production scale, then we would certainly look at it in that light in terms of whether there would be a greater impact and more matters potentially affected than we're currently aware of.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: In your assessment—is it right to call it an assessment?</p> <p>Mr Manning: Not strictly speaking, because the matter was never referred to the department. We conduct assessments on matters that are referred to us. This one has not been. We've looked at it as to whether it should have been and whether further action was warranted.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: In that vein, was it brought to the department's attention that this was on Aboriginal land?</p> <p>Mr Manning: I don't know specifically without checking some more of the background.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Could you take on notice whether the people looking on it were aware of that?</p> <p>Mr Manning: Yes. I'll check if that was brought forward. But, again, from my perspective the things we take account of under the act are the listed matters. So, unless there was some form of listed heritage matter associated with it, even if the fact that it was on Aboriginal land had been brought to our attention, it's likely not to have been a factor that was relevant—for</p>		
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				my consideration, anyway.		
89	1.5 ESD	Senator Hanson-Young	Leigh Creek Energy project – Chairman	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Was the department aware that the former general manager of investor relations at Linc Energy—the company that has been fined millions of dollars in Queensland and has led to the ban of the technology in Queensland—Mr Justyn Peters, is now the executive chairman of Leigh Creek Energy? Are you aware of that?</p> <p>Mr Manning: No, not specifically. The department may have been, in terms of the work it did. I'd need to go back and check whether that came through in the work that we've done thus far on this.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: That would be helpful. There is a consideration under the EPBC Act of a person's environmental history, isn't there?</p>	Page 91	SQ18-000691
90	1.5 ESD	Senator Hanson-Young	Linc Energy project	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Was the Linc Energy project in Queensland ever referred as a controlled action under the EPBC Act?</p> <p>Mr Manning: I don't know off hand. I look after assessments for the western half of the country. I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Mr Pratt, could you have somebody check that?</p> <p>Mr Pratt: We'll take it on notice, yes.</p>	Page 91	SQ18-000692
91	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Halls Island – Lake Malbena in the Tasmanian Western Wilderness World Heritage Area	<p>Senator URQUHART: What representations, if any, did the Commonwealth receive from the Tasmanian government regarding this project?</p> <p>Mr Barker: The department received information from Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service, including from Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania, which is a unit of the Tasmanian government.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Were they written submissions or documentation?</p> <p>Mr Barker: Yes, written comments.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Are you able to provide written copies of the documents that were submitted by the Tasmanian government?</p>	Page 120	SQ18-000694

				<p>Mr Barker: I would have to check the content—the way that they were presented. We received information via email, so it may not just be information that is neatly packaged as part of a single document.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: That's okay. Are you able to provide that, in whatever form?</p> <p>Mr Barker: Yes, we will certainly go away and look at what we can provide there.</p>		
92	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Halls Island – Lake Malbena in the Tasmanian Western Wilderness World Heritage Area – Submissions received	<p>Senator URQUHART: Can you give me a breakdown of total submissions received for and against the project? How many were received from organisations that were for the project and how many from organisations that were against the project? How many were received from individuals that were for the project and how many were received from individuals that were against the project?</p> <p>Mr Barker: By recollection, the majority of submissions, I think almost all of them, were against the project. That's fairly common for—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Do I use the 900 number?</p> <p>Mr Barker: It's over 900, but in total, yes. That is the full total of submissions received.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So, the majority of that over 900 were against the proposal?</p> <p>Mr Barker: Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you break that down further in relation to organisations versus individuals.</p> <p>Mr Barker: I would have to take on notice breaking it down in those terms, but we can provide that.</p>	Pages 120–121	SQ18-000696
93	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Halls Island – Lake Malbena in the Tasmanian Western Wilderness World Heritage Area – Helicopter fuel	<p>Senator URQUHART: What conditions or measures, if any, have been put in place regarding helicopters landing on Halls Island?</p> <p>Mr Barker: The proposal does not include a proposal for landing of helicopters on Halls Island itself. The landing site is proposed adjacent to Halls Island, on the mainland, on sheet rock.</p>	Page 121	SQ18-000698

				<p>Senator URQUHART: How far away from Halls Island is the rock?</p> <p>Mr Barker: I'd have to take the precise distance on notice but it's in the order of hundreds of metres. It's probably around half a kilometre, but I'd have to take on notice the precision around the distance.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Around half a kilometre, but you'll take that on notice to confirm the exact—</p> <p>Mr Barker: I can provide that particular detail on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Do you know what fuel load the helicopters would be carrying?</p> <p>Mr Barker: The helicopters are not—there's a restriction on them not being able to store fuel on the sites, so they have to fly in and fly out fully fuelled, I would imagine, in most instances. The precise amount of fuel on the helicopter, I'd have to provide on notice.</p>		
94	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Halls Island – Lake Malbena in the Tasmanian Western Wilderness World Heritage Area – Waste removal	<p>Senator URQUHART: No, the same helicopter as the people coming in, so—or is there a specific helicopter to remove the waste?</p> <p>Mr Barker: I don't think there's a requirement that it has to go out with the people or for the material to be taken in with the people. There would be a period of construction around the site and some helicopter trips around maintenance of the site and those types of things that don't involve the carrying of people into the site itself.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: We're talking about half a kilometre, roughly, between where the rock is, where the helicopter's going to land, over to the island.</p> <p>Mr Knudson: If I may, if you have a series of these very specific questions, probably it's better, more efficiently dealt with, through questions on notice. I'm just very conscious that we have 25 minutes left.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: They are quite specific. But I need to get to the point about, if there's around half a kilometre from where the waste is going to be created</p>	Page 122	SQ18-000700

				<p>to where the helicopter—how do you get it from A to B?</p> <p>Mr Barker: That's where the helicopter landing site would be for passengers to disembark from the helicopter. The helicopter can pick up material closer to the site with a sling; the helicopter doesn't land, but the material is loaded onto the sling and the helicopter.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Is that how you would deal with the waste?</p> <p>Mr Barker: I'd have to take on notice exactly the detail of that, but essentially it would be carried out in that manner. So it doesn't have to traverse the terrain.</p>		
95	1.5: ESD	Senator Waters	Toondah Harbour referrals	<p>Senator WATERS: Coming back to that question about what you've told the proponent: did you convey that it was clearly unacceptable after that 2017 referral, or did you merely say that you had concerns?</p> <p>Mr Barker: I'd have to check the precise terms of the advice we provided to the proponent, but we provided quite transparent advice to the proponent about the significant challenges that the proposal faced.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: If you could—</p> <p>Mr Tregurtha: 'Clearly unacceptable' is a decision made under the act, so we wouldn't ever be able to communicate to a proponent that their proposal was clearly unacceptable without going through a process to make that decision. As Mr Barker has pointed out, we would have a discussion with the proponent raising issues of significant concern to the department with a proposal, but the actual constitution of a 'clearly unacceptable' is a decision under the act.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Sure, I understand. When raising those concerns, would it be normal to hint that if they weren't addressed then the proposal might be deemed clearly unacceptable? Could there be a reference to that—or was there a reference to that—possibility in that correspondence?</p>	Page 124	SQ18-000702

				<p>Mr Tregurtha: I can't talk to the specifics. Maybe Mr Barker can, but, certainly—</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I think he's taken it on notice.</p>		
96	1.5: ESD	Senator Waters	Toondah Harbour referrals – meeting details	<p>Senator WATERS: Okay, thank you. I imagine the department would have met with the developer or their consultants over this proposal many, many times. Could you please provide me a list of those meeting dates and for which of those meetings notes were kept?</p> <p>Mr Barker: We've had quite a number of meetings and discussions with the proponent since 2015. There would have been notes kept for a number of them. I can't say conclusively that notes would have been kept for all of them, but we have had quite a number of discussions with the proponent.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Could you please take on notice, then, the list of those meeting dates and also which of those meetings have notes associated with them? And for those that don't, why is it that they don't? And before I move to another topic: can I clarify that for the development to have gone ahead inside the RAMSAR wetlands, the boundary would have needed to change?</p>	Pages 124–125	SQ18-000705
97	1.5: ESD	Senator Waters	Adani's water management plan	<p>Senator WATERS: Have you briefed your minister, as opposed to Minister Canavan, on the approach of switching the review of the management plans from IESC to Geoscience?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: We haven't switched anything.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: You've chosen to—</p> <p>Mr Knudson: What we have done is chosen to go with Geoscience and CSIRO. And, yes, we have briefed the minister.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Rather than IESC. You have briefed the minister? What date was that, please?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: I don't recall, off the top of my head. I'm happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. Was that after the</p>	Page 126	SQ18-000707

				conversation with Minister Canavan? Mr Knudson: I'd have to take that on notice.		
98	1.5 ESD	Senator Keneally	EPBC Act Review	During the May Estimates hearings, the Department stated that preliminary work had begun on the EPBC Act review. What is the current status of that work? a. What is the timeline for that work?	Written	SQ18-000815
99	1.5 ESD	Senator Hanson-Young	Gordon St Studio EPBC Act referral	Has the Department received a referral regarding the historic ABC Studios on Gordon St in Elsternwick under the EPBC Act? If it has, can it table any documents relating to the transfer?	Written	SQ18-000817
100	1.5 ESD	Senator Whish-Wilson	Phase-out of microbeads	What is the status of the voluntary phase-out of microbeads from personal care and cosmetic products? What proportion of the industry has agreed to the phase-out?	Written	SQ18-000828
101	1.5 ESD	Senator Whish-Wilson	Removal of products containing microbeads	What proportion of products that previously contained microbeads have been removed from sale?	Written	SQ18-000829
102	1.5 ESD	Senator Whish-Wilson	Microbeads - regulation of products	How does department ensure new entrants into the market are not selling products that contain microbeads?	Written	SQ18-000831
103	1.5 ESD	Senator Whish-Wilson	Measures to ban microbeads	Is the department considering measures to mandate a ban on microbeads?	Written	SQ18-000833
104	1.5 ESD	Senator Waters	Meetings with Adani representatives	Has the Department, Minister or Assistance Minister met with Adani representatives or lobbyists in the past 6 months? If so, please identify the dates, location, attendance list and purpose of meetings.	Written	SQ18-000841
105	1.5 ESD	Senator Waters	Information supplied by Shenhua	Regarding Shenhua's conditional approval, requiring provision of a Water Management Plan and a Biodiversity Management Plan: What information has been supplied by Shenhua to date? What more is required?	Written	SQ18-000842
106	1.5 ESD	Senator Waters	Departmental contact with	Regarding Shenhua's conditional approval, requiring provision of a Water Management Plan	Written	SQ18-000843

			Shenhua	and a Biodiversity Management Plan: What contact has the Department had with Shenhua since July 2015, and what was the substance of that contact?		
107	1.5 ESD	Senator Waters	Shenhua Water Management Plan	Regarding Shenhua's conditional approval, requiring provision of a Water Management Plan and a Biodiversity Management Plan: Has Shenhua stated when (or if) they will be submitting their Water Management Plan and/or Biodiversity Management Plan?	Written	SQ18-000844
108	1.5 ESD	Senator Waters	Adani Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project plans and strategies	Regarding the list of plans and strategies not yet approved that are required under the approval conditions for the Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project (EPBC 2010/5736): Provide a detailed update on the status of these plans and strategies. Some of these plans require Adani to investigate the impact of the Carmichael coal mine on groundwater aquifers and groundwater-dependent ecosystems (per approval conditions 3-6 and 25-28). The Lake Eyre Basin Springs Assessment Project, prepared for the Lake Eyre Basin Bioregional Assessment, recommended that further research should be conducted to properly assess the risks of the Carmichael coal mine to the Doongmabulla Springs Complex. The Queensland government has also confirmed that Adani's Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Management Plan, required under the state Environmental Authority, must identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex prior to approval. a. Will the Department require Adani to identify the source aquifer of the Doongmabulla Springs Complex, prior to the approval of these plans and	Written	SQ18-000845

				<p>strategies?</p> <p>b. If so, what research methodologies will the Department require Adani to implement?</p> <p>c. Specifically, will the Department require Adani to deploy seismic testing to identify the presence of any fracturing in the Rewan Formation or Colinlea Sandstone before the commencement of mining operations?</p>		
109	1.5 ESD	Senator Waters	North Galilee Water Scheme	<p>Regarding the North Galilee Water Scheme (EPBC 2018/8191):</p> <p>Why was the ‘water trigger’ not applied as a controlling provision for the project, despite submissions that it could have a significant impact on a water resource? What evidence was used to make this determination?</p>	Written	SQ18-000847
110	1.5 ESD	Senator Waters	North Galilee Water Scheme – Assessment	<p>Regarding the North Galilee Water Scheme (EPBC 2018/8191):</p> <p>Why is the project being assessed on preliminary documentation rather than a full EIS? What evidence was used to make this determination?</p> <p>Have any requests for statements of reasons for either controlling provisions or the level of assessment been made? By whom? Have such reasons been supplied? If not, when are they due? If so, please provide a copy.</p>	Written	SQ18-000848
111	1.5 HRMD	Senator Waters	Ranger Mine Closure Plan Assessment Report – Scheduled works	<p>Regarding the Ranger Mine Closure Plan Assessment Report and its recommendations:</p> <p>Your report refers to the necessity of contingency planning in the event that scheduled works are not completed by 2026. Can you summarise which of these works you are especially concerned about?</p> <p>Does the company have a plan for the management of works that might be necessary to occur beyond 2026, such as monitoring and sediment control, etc?</p>	Written	SQ18-000849

112	1.5 HRMD	Senator Waters	Ranger Mine Closure Plan Assessment Report – Management of works	Regarding the Ranger Mine Closure Plan Assessment Report and its recommendations: Do you see a risk with most of the revegetation activities scheduled for a single year in 2025/26? What is the arrangement for supplementary planting and establishing an understorey?	Written	SQ18-000850
113	1.5 HRMD	Senator Waters	Ranger Mine Closure Plan Assessment Report – Next steps and engagement	Regarding the Ranger Mine Closure Plan Assessment Report and its recommendations: What process do you anticipate from now – what are the next steps? How do you expect the Minister to respond to the advice you have provided? How does the federal Minister engage with the NT minister? Will there be any further opportunity for environment NGOs or the public to engage?	Written	SQ18-000851
114	1.5 HRMD	Senator Waters	Approval of the Ranger Mine Closure Plan	Regarding the Ranger Mine Closure Plan Assessment Report and its recommendations: Presuming the Minister signs off on the RMCP, what is the timeline and process for it becoming a formal part of the regulatory framework?	Written	SQ18-000852
115	1.5 OOC	Senator Siewert	YARA and Woolside reporting obligations	Is the Federal Government satisfied that YARA and Woolside meet their reporting obligations and are adhering to their environmental conditions? How many breaches have been reported or noted by the Commonwealth and what action has been taken to enforce compliance?	Written	SQ18-000751
116	1.5 OOC	Senator Siewert	YARA and Woolside environmental conditions	Is the Commonwealth satisfied that the environmental conditions imposed on YARA and Woolside are sufficiently rigorous to protect the petroglyphs from deterioration? On what basis are you satisfied given the WA Minister is undertaking a review of YARA conditions?	Written	SQ18-000752
117	1.5 OOC	Senator Whish-Wilson	Reef water pollution Clairview QLD	A large area has recently been ploughed up for cane farming in Clairview, Qld. Following recent rain, sediment has been washed into the Clairview Creek, Cattle Creek and Middle Creek. The area is immediately adjacent to the Clairview Dugong	Written	SQ18-000819

				Protection Area (B). Is the department aware of this problems		
118	1.5 OOC	Senator Whish-Wilson	Reef water pollution Clairview QLD	A large area has recently been ploughed up for cane farming in Clairview, Qld. Following recent rain, sediment has been washed into the Clairview Creek, Cattle Creek and Middle Creek. The area is immediately adjacent to the Clairview Dugong Protection Area (B). Was the department approached by the developer to seek approval?	Written	SQ18-000821
119	1.5 OOC	Senator Whish-Wilson	Reef water pollution Clairview QLD approvals	A large area has recently been ploughed up for cane farming in Clairview, Qld. Following recent rain, sediment has been washed into the Clairview Creek, Cattle Creek and Middle Creek. The area is immediately adjacent to the Clairview Dugong Protection Area (B). Has the department given any approvals for this development?	Written	SQ18-000823
120	1.5 OOC	Senator Whish-Wilson	Action taken to address Reef water pollution Clairview QLD	A large area has recently been ploughed up for cane farming in Clairview, Qld. Following recent rain, sediment has been washed into the Clairview Creek, Cattle Creek and Middle Creek. The area is immediately adjacent to the Clairview Dugong Protection Area (B). What is being done to address the problem?	Written	SQ18-000824
121	1.5 OOC	Senator Whish-Wilson	Reef water pollution Clairview QLD investigation	A large area has recently been ploughed up for cane farming in Clairview, Qld. Following recent rain, sediment has been washed into the Clairview Creek, Cattle Creek and Middle Creek. The area is immediately adjacent to the Clairview Dugong Protection Area (B). Is the department taking action to investigate it?	Written	SQ18-000826
122	1.6: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Staff working on waste policy	Senator URQUHART: Can you tell me how many staff are working on waste policy? I know that the government made an announcement about waste to energy last week and that it has been working on voluntary targets for recycled content in packaging.	Pages 5–6	SQ18-000709

				<p>How many staff are working on that?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: We have established a task force on waste and those officers will be here to answer any specific questions in that space. In terms of the—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: The only specific question is: how many staff are working on it? That's my question at the moment.</p> <p>Mr Knudson: On the specifics, unless one of my colleagues happens to have it, we don't have that specific information, but we're happy to come back to you on that.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: Could you give a rough indication?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: A rough indication is that it's probably about 10 or so staff, but we'll come back with the specific number.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: Ten or so.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: We'll correct that if there's a substantial difference.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Is that a change from other periods of time when staff have been working on waste policy?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: We've had staff working in the waste area for a number of years. Basically, they've been substantively focused on the Product Stewardship Act; that's been a large part of the Commonwealth's initiatives in the area of waste for a number of years. At this point, though, we have increased our staffing to deliver the update to the 2009 waste policy and a number of other initiatives out of the meeting of environment ministers back in April. Again, we can come back regarding the specifics around that.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Okay, so you don't have that. How many have increased? You don't have that at the moment—</p> <p>Mr Knudson: I don't.</p>		
123	1.6: CCD	Senator	Air Quality	In Armidale, NSW National Air Quality Standards	Written	SQ18-000724

		Faruqi	Standards	<p>were exceeded 31 times this winter at the official NSW Government monitoring station and 63 times in one residential area.</p> <p>1. Are there any plans for Armidale, NSW to get a federally-funded program similar to the woodsmoke reduction program Launceston, Tasmania that reduced wintertime deaths from lung and cardiovascular diseases?</p> <p>a. If so, how much funding has been committed to it?</p> <p>b. If not, are there any plans or proposals in the pipeline to fund such a program in Armidale?</p>		
124	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	IPCC report – Minister’s briefing	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Did you brief Minister Price on this report in the day or so after it came out?</p> <p>Ms Evans: We did brief the minister.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Was that a verbal brief or a written brief?</p> <p>Ms Evans: We provided a written brief and we also discussed the report.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Would that have been prior to the minister’s interview with Sabra Lane on 9 October? The report came out on the 8th.</p> <p>Ms Evans: Yes.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: So prior to the minister doing that interview with Sabra Lane on 9 October, she had had a briefing from the department?</p> <p>Ms Evans: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: My recollection is that we had a number of briefings, both informally and formally.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes, of course. But there was at least a written brief at that point.</p> <p>Ms Evans: Yes.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Do you know how long that brief was?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I’d have to take that on notice. Generally speaking, we try to keep our briefs brief, so it would have only been a couple of pages. I’ll take it on notice,</p>	Page 10	SQ18-000710

				<p>but written briefs, generally speaking, are not particularly long.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes, understandably. Could you also inquire as to whether we could get a tabled copy of that brief?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Thank you. Has the brief had to be updated since that interview?</p> <p>Ms Evans: But I will need to check whether we provided additional material because we certainly provide updated Question Time briefing and so on. But the brief that I am in particular recalling that was specifically about the report was provided in advance of the final. So, yes, we would have had to update it.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Do you think it would have been updated before or after the interview with Sabra Lane?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to take that on notice. I'm not sure that we have resubmitted that particular brief but we have provided the minister with—</p>		
125	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	IPCC report – moratorium on new coal	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Mr Pratt, we'll come back to the details in relation to this, as you have asked. Ms Evans, this is perhaps to you again: are you aware that Mr Tong, the former President of Kiribati, has called for a moratorium on new coal?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I would have to say, personally I'm afraid I was not aware of that but I'm sure that there will be people in my team who will be more across that than I am.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Are you aware whether the minister has been briefed at all in relation to Mr Tong's position relating to coal and the impact that it has on carbon emissions?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I do not believe that I have seen a brief go to the minister on that particular topic and certainly not specifically on Mr Tong's views, no.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: Not to our knowledge. If we discover</p>	Page 12	SQ18-000713

				that's not the case, we'll let you know.		
126	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Chisholm	Commencement of a new pumped hydro storage project in Tasmania	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: When does the department anticipate that construction of a new pumped hydro storage project in Tasmania could begin?</p> <p>Mr O'Toole: I would expect that would come down to information that Tasmania provides in terms of their more detailed feasibility studies on those.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Has the department entered into any discussion about the funding of any of these projects under consideration?</p> <p>Mr O'Toole: Not that I'm aware of.</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: No. I'd want to check, but, no, certainly not from our group's perspective.</p> <p>Mr O'Toole: There was the money provided in terms of the initial feasibility studies, but, in terms of construction there's none that I'm aware of.</p>	Pages 85–86	SQ18-000703
127	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Chisholm	Pumped hydro storage projects business case	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: Has the department received any representations from the Tasmanian government or Hydro Tasmania regarding the funding of the new pumped hydro storage projects?</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: We have met in the past with representatives from Hydro Tasmania about the broad Battery of the Nation proposal, but, as far as I'm aware, those meetings didn't go into details about funding from the Commonwealth for those initiatives. No.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: On the businesses cases that back up this plan: is the business case on the overall plan or on the individual projects?</p> <p>Mr O'Toole: I'm not exactly sure whether it's a composition of all of them or individuals. We'd have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 86	SQ18-000701
128	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Chisholm	Delivery of the pumped hydro storage projects	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: When do you expect to receive the business case? Is it a business case that they're putting together or—</p>	Page 86	SQ18-000699

			business case	<p>Mr Chisholm: To the best of my knowledge, I'm not aware, I'm sorry. I will have to take it on notice. We're not dealing with this issue other than through our conversations with ARENA on an ongoing basis. As I've said, we've met with Hydro Tasmania in the past, but we're not tracking in detail the delivery of that.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: So you wouldn't know when something would be due to arrive.</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: No, but we can certainly find out the answer for you.</p>		
129	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Stoker	IPCC latest report data	Was the Department asked for data from the IPCC in preparation for their latest report? If so, which data?	Written	SQ18-000635
130	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Leyonhjelm	Estimates of greenhouse gas emissions in 2030	What are the best available estimates (even if they are not official estimates and even if they relate to particular scenarios) of greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 in Iran, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, China, India, Russia, Brazil and Mexico?	Written	SQ18-000736
131	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Keneally	IPCC Report – Release Date and Review	<p>On June 4 2018, a media release from the IPCC stated that the final draft of the '1.5 Report' had been delivered to the relevant governments. Can you confirm that the report was received at that time?</p> <p>a. Was that report reviewed by the Department prior to the public release on 8 October 2018?</p> <p>i. If no: Why not?</p>	Written	SQ18-000755
132	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Keneally	IPCC Report – Advising the Minister	<p>When the report was received was it provided to the then-Minister? a. When the new Minister was made aware of the report?</p> <p>b. Was the new Minister provided a summary or other briefing on the contents of the report prior to its public release?</p> <p>c. On what date was the report provided to the new Minister?</p> <p>d. Was a briefing on the report offered?</p>	Written	SQ18-000756
133	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Keneally	IPCC Report – Invitation to provide comment	The IPCC review process states that governments are invited to give their comments and views on the authors of the report. Did the Australian Government	Written	SQ18-000757

				provide any comments regarding the authors? a. At any stage were concerns expressed regarding any of the authors and their scientific qualification and expertise, including the five Australian scientists involved in the report?		
134	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Keneally	IPCC Report – Submitted Comments	The review process also provides an opportunity for governments to submit comments on earlier versions of the report. Did the Australian Government do so? a. Did the Australian government express concerns about the analysis, methodology, or preliminary conclusions of the IPCC report when provided this opportunity to do so?	Written	SQ18-000758
135	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Keneally	IPCC Report – Analysis	Was a view expressed to the IPCC by the Australian Government that the draft IPCC ‘1.5 Report’ was not a rigorous piece of scientific work and represented little more than opinion? a. In the Department’s view, is the analysis conducted in the IPCC report based on scientific and empirical expertise and data? b. What is the difference between this type of scientific analysis and hearsay or opinion?	Written	SQ18-000759
136	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Keneally	IPCC Report – Report Conclusions	In the Department’s view, is the IPCC report a credible analysis? a. Does the Department accept the report’s conclusions as a sound basis for policy development and calibration?	Written	SQ18-000760
137	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Keneally	IPCC Report – Comments in the Media	Upon public release, the Minister described the conclusions of the IPCC report as ‘opinion’. Is this an accurate characterization of the process involved in and the nature of the IPCC 1.5 report? a. Alternatively, does the Department agree that the IPCC ‘1.5 Report’ is the global scientific community’s best effort at assessing the impacts of 1.5 and 2 degrees warming on the world, as well as the practical changes needed to limit warming to those levels?	Written	SQ18-000761

138	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	LNG contributions to stationary energy and fugitives	How much LNG has contributed to both stationary energy and fugitives in the last year? Can you provide the calculations and any key assumptions that inform your response? Have you included electricity emissions used in producing the gas? If not, are LNG emissions are even higher than what is reported?	Written	SQ18-000837
139	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	LNG Emissions – Growth in LNG exports	How much lower would Australia’s emissions have been if the growth in LNG exports this year did not go ahead?	Written	SQ18-000836
140	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	LNG exports	If LNG exports had not continued, how would Australia’s emissions have changed this year – would they have gone up or down?	Written	SQ18-000855
141	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	LNG emissions increase	Is the increase from LNG bigger or smaller than 6.8Mt?	Written	SQ18-000835
142	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	Total LNG contribution	What is the total LNG contribution to national emissions in the last five years broken down by year?	Written	SQ18-000834
143	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	Gorgon CCS fugitive emissions	What were the fugitive emissions from the Gorgon plant last year? And in the first year of operation? According to project lead Chevron, it could be up to 4 million tonnes a year. Australia’s emissions went up last year by 7 million tonnes. Is it correct to say Gorgon’s failed CCS project has caused emissions equal to most of Australia’s emissions increase? If not, how does the Department account for this? Will Gorgon face any penalty for driving this increase in national emissions?	Written	SQ18-000832
144	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	Gorgon CCS	Will there be any commonwealth penalty if Gorgon CCS fails?	Written	SQ18-000830
145	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	Gorgon CCS and the safeguard mechanism	How does the safeguard mechanism apply to this project?	Written	SQ18-000827

146	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Hanson-Young	IPCC report – Phase out of coal	<p>Has the Department considered the recommendation of the IPCC report saying we need to phase out coal globally by 2050?</p> <p>Has the Department done any work looking at how this would be done in Australia?</p> <p>Is it enough to let coal power plants close or do we need new policy?</p> <p>Is the Department's view that this would result in the lights going out?</p>	Written	SQ18-000825
147	2.1: CCD	Senator Hanson-Young	Phase out of coal	<p>If the world is phasing out coal by 2050 to meet the 1.5C target, does Australia, as the largest exporter of coal, need to phase out coal earlier?</p>	Written	SQ18-000822
148	2.1: CCD	Senator Hanson-Young	National Forest Industry Plan – one billion trees	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Yes, fair call. Mr Pratt, you said that this tree-planting program is the responsibility of a different department or a different area. Could you just explain who is responsible for that?</p> <p>Mr Pratt: I am assuming that it is the agriculture portfolio which oversees the strategy which was being referred to by the minister.</p> <p>Ms Evans: That's correct. It's the National Forest Industry Plan, which is the responsibility of the agriculture minister, and it was released a couple of weeks ago.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Is the figure of one billion trees correct?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I'll have to check whether it is in the strategy or whether it's the national forests association who are interpreting the strategy to mean a billion trees but certainly that is the number that has been spoken about in the context of that plan and that would have been what the minister was referring to.</p>	Page 11	SQ18-000884
149	2.1: CCD	Senator Siewert	Greenhouse gas ramifications – Karratha Gas Plant	<p>What are the greenhouse gas ramifications of the proposed long term processing of third party gas at Karratha Gas Plant including Browse?</p>	Written	SQ18-000753

150	2.1: CCD	Senator Storer	Air pollution and the effects of car idling	<p>Is the department aware of the damaging effects car idling has on public health?</p> <p>Has the department investigated specific anti-idling policies which would assist in the reduction of air pollution?</p> <p>Has the department initiated any policies which include education campaigns as a tool in the reduction of air pollution?</p> <p>As children under 14 years of age are at much higher risk of developing conditions associated with air pollution, has the department investigated the effectiveness of education campaigns targeted at parents who idle in school zones?</p> <p>The UK and some parts of the United States have introduced anti-idling legislation as a tool in reducing air pollution. Has the department looked into the feasibility of anti-idling legislation in Australia?</p> <p>Has the department looked at anti-idling legislation targeting school zones?</p>	Written	SQ18-000737
151	3.1 AAD	Senator Urquhart	Paved runway access	<p>Dr Gales: Yes. Obviously weather conditions at the site of the runway will limit flights in some weather conditions, but essentially, as the secretary said, the runway will be available all year round.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: What's the minimum temperature that that paved runway would be accessible in?</p> <p>Dr Gales: I might ask Rob to comment on the technical elements for civil aviation. I'm pretty sure they're within the type of aircraft we're looking at. The temperatures even in winter are not limiting for accessing there, because it's a coastal part of Antarctica, so it only gets down to a balmy minus 40 or so in the middle of winter.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Right.</p> <p>Mr Bryson: We'll take the actual specification on notice. We're looking at Northern Hemisphere operations where they're regularly flying into some</p>	Page 51	SQ18-000714

				<p>pretty low temperatures, around minus 20, and they've been doing it for a long time. It is nothing unusual, I think, in that regard.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Would there be a temperature that would make the runway not accessible?</p> <p>Mr Bryson: I'd have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: If you could, that would be great. Also, if there is, historically, how many days would be below that temperature?</p> <p>Mr Bryson: Yes.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: What's the maximum wind speed that the paved runway would be accessible in?</p> <p>Mr Bryson: Again, I'll have to take that one on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: And, again, if you can have a look at, historically, how many days the winds are above that speed.</p> <p>Mr Bryson: Yes.</p>		
152	3.1 AAD	Senator Patrick	Progress of the Icebreaker	<p>Senator PATRICK: My questions go to the progress of the icebreaker. We talked about it last time, Mr Bryson. At that last meeting there was a milestone completion of the detail design review. You said it would be finished that Friday. I'm wondering how that went.</p> <p>Mr Bryson: I'll take that on notice and get you the correct date that it was finished. It was finished very closely to that date.</p>	Page 52	SQ18-000712
153	3.1 AAD	Senator Chisholm	Outcomes of Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: I have a couple of questions around the marine parks or reserves in the Antarctic. I don't know if this is one for the minister: could I get an update on the status of any negotiations regarding new marine parks or reserves in the Antarctic?</p> <p>Dr Gales: CCAMLR, the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, which is the element of the Antarctic Treaty that deals with the marine areas in the Southern Ocean, is currently meeting in Hobart. Our delegation is led by</p>	Page 54	SQ18-000711

				<p>Gillian Slocum, the commissioner for Australia. She, with colleagues from many other government agencies, is down there representing Australia's priorities, No. 1 of which is to advance the acceptance and implementation of the regional marine protected areas across East Antarctica. That will be part of the process for the rest of this weekend for next week, as the commission meets, and we'll have to see what the outcomes are. There continues to be a great deal of discussion over the Ross Sea MPA that was agreed a couple of years ago and the management plan that is associated with that. That discussion will proceed the commission's deliberations over future MPA developments.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: In terms of the East Antarctic, are there countries that do not agree with that proposal?</p> <p>Dr Gales: There are countries that have not been supporting the development of those marine protected areas. CCAMLR operates by consensus. It's a slow process for this type of change, through such an organisation, and there have been countries that have not been supportive.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Which countries are those?</p> <p>Dr Gales: Because deliberations are happening right now in the commission, I'm not sure I want to prejudice the discussions that happen in the meeting itself while it's still going on. But a number of countries are on record from previous meetings as opposing our MPAs.</p> <p>Mr Cahill: We could give you some of the outcomes of CCAMLR this week on notice, which would be helpful. Once that meeting is over, we can provide you an update of what's come out of that.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Could part of that note be which countries do not agree, and what work we're doing to convince them of the case?</p>		
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				<p>Mr Cahill: Yes. We can do that.</p> <p>Dr Gales: We can provide that on notice if you're comfortable with that.</p>		
154	4.1: ED	Senator Urquhart	Cost of consultation and engagement efforts on electricity prices	<p>Senator URQUHART: What's the total cost of all advertising, consultations and communications with regard to government actions and policies on electricity prices?</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: Could you repeat the question?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: What is the total cost of all advertising, consultations and communications with regard to government actions and policies on electricity prices?</p> <p>Mr Pratt: The Powering Forward campaign?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Yes.</p> <p>Dr Bacon: There has been a campaign to communicate to the public about energy and how consumers can reduce their energy costs, both householders and business consumers. Your question was about the cost of that campaign. I can let you know that the government's expenditure on that campaign during 2017-18 was approximately \$8.3 million.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Is that for all advertising, consultations and communications?</p> <p>Dr Bacon: That wouldn't encompass consultation and other types of communications. That's specifically about the Powering Forward marketing campaign.</p> <p>Mr Heferen: With respect to the total amount spent on consultations and other communications, we would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: If you can take it on notice and give me a more detailed breakdown, that's fine. I'm happy with that.</p>	Page 6	SQ18-000652
155	4.1: ED	Senator Urquhart	Renewable Energy Investment	<p>Senator URQUHART: Okay. In relation to the question that I asked you a moment ago about how much renewable energy investment we'd need to see</p>	Page 69	SQ18-000877

				<p>each year over the 2020s to reach the 50 per cent target, you said you hadn't done that. Could you take that on notice and provide that back to us.</p> <p>Mr Parker: We might ask the department to actually do the exercise, because they are responsible.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I don't mind who does it, but you could just take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Parker: Yes. They're responsible for the emissions projection.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Great. Thank you.</p> <p>Mr Parker: For clarification, do you mean for the electricity sector or for the economy as a whole?</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Could you do it for both, because I think that would be useful.</p> <p>Mr Parker: All right. We will liaise with the department.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Thank you.</p>		
156	4.1: ED	Senator Chisholm	Total cost of the National Energy Guarantee	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: I want to start on the National Energy Guarantee, which was the flagship policy of the government in regard to electricity until August. What was the total cost to the department of the work done on the National Energy Guarantee?</p> <p>Mr Heferen: The cost to the department in relation to—</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: The work on the National Energy Guarantee.</p> <p>Mr Heferen: Of course, there is an element of the National Energy Guarantee—the reliability obligation work—which is ongoing.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: I asked what the cost was of putting it together.</p> <p>Mr Heferen: I beg your pardon. I think we would have to take that on notice. I'm looking down—yes, we'd have it take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Could we make it clear that the NEG was announced in October 2017 and that it was announced the emissions targets were being</p>	Pages 83–84	SQ18-000708

				<p>dropped from the NEG on 20 August 2018? That period would be the period we're interested in.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: Just to clarify: are you looking for us to do an estimate of the cost of things like staff time, money that was provided to the Energy Security Board, the consultations and all of that?</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: Okay. We would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: And advertising.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: Advertising, yes.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: So you don't know how many staff, full-time equivalent, were working on the National Energy Guarantee?</p> <p>Mr Heferen: We had a mix of staff. We had some staff seconded to the ESB and we had some staff working on the guarantee, largely in Mr James Chisholm's division. Also there would have been staff elsewhere in the department—say, for argument's sake, in relation to the extent there was communications work done—working on the guarantee. So I think that to get a proper answer and to make sure the Senate is properly informed we would need to take that on notice.</p>		
157	4.1: ED	Senator Chisholm	Seconded staff to work on the National Energy Guarantee	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: Great. The Energy Security Board seconded a number of staff from external agencies to work on the National Energy Guarantee—is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Heferen: That's correct.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: How many staff were seconded in that fashion?</p> <p>Mr Heferen: We would need to take issues for the Energy Security Board on notice and consult with our colleagues at the ESB.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: When someone was seconded from a private company or organisation, who paid their salary?</p>	Page 84	SQ18-000706

				<p>Mr Heferen: It would be a mix of arrangements. To the extent that staff were seconded from other government agencies, it may have been the case that those government agencies bore the cost of that. Again, I don't know the arrangements the ESB entered into for other staff they seconded and so we would need to take that on notice.</p>		
158	4.1: ED	Senator Keneally	Lidell power station reports	<p>Senator KENEALLY: Have you had any reports about the Liddell power station specifically? Mr Chisholm: Have we received reports about Liddell power station specifically? No. Senator KENEALLY: On feasibility? Mr Chisholm: No, we haven't received reports about the feasibility of upgrading the Liddell power station, specifically, as far as I'm aware. Senator KENEALLY: Are you sure? Mr Chisholm: Quite sure. There are, again— Senator KENEALLY: Okay. How about in November 2017 and again in May 2018, authored by Advisian, a subsidiary of WorleyParsons? Mr Chisholm: As head of the division, I can confidently say I'm not familiar with those reports. Now, it's possible that there are people who have read them or who have come across them, but they're not something I've delved into. Senator KENEALLY: Would you take that on notice, please? Mr Chisholm: Very happy to. Mr Heferen: Sorry, what are we taking on notice? The existence of the reports? Senator KENEALLY: If the department has received reports on Liddell power station that look at the feasibility of extension of the operational life of that station. I understand that there have been two delivered to the department, both authored by Advisian—as I said, a subsidiary of WorleyParsons. Mr Heferen: Yes, we'll take that on notice.</p>	Pages 84–85	SQ18-000704

				<p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. I suppose then you can't tell me if the minister's office was briefed on the contents of those reports?</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: Not that I'm aware of, Senator.</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: I think the vibe I get here is that nobody has heard of the report!</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I can tell you that some people have heard of them, Minister. Can I put on notice not only if the department is aware they've received these reports, or if they have received them, but also what the reports show in relation to the deterioration of the plant, the potential safety risks and whether or not the minister's office was provided with any information about those reports?</p> <p>Mr Heferen: Yes, we'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: And if it is the case that the department has received them and nobody at the table seems to be aware of them, could I ask why it is the case the reports weren't escalated?</p> <p>Mr Pratt: If we discover that is the case—no doubt there are other Jameses in the Energy Group who might have looked at them—we will let you know, but the Energy Group has close to several hundred people and we do get a lot of reports. So it's possible that those haven't come to the attention of the senior people at the table, but—</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Sure, Mr Pratt, I understand.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: But if we briefed the minister, I would then be slightly surprised as well.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: If these reports exist, and it's my understanding that they do, it's also my understanding that they were delivered to the department at the very time the then minister was advocating for the extension of the life of Liddell power station. These are not some minor reports; they're quite politically sensitive.</p>		
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				<p>Mr Heferen: It's highly unlikely that they came to the department. If they did come to the department, it would be very likely that someone at the table would have been aware of them and been briefed on them, or would have seen something about them. It does seem to me like a mystery, and, like most questions on notice—which we pursue very vigorously—this one we will pursue even more vigorously, to try to get to the bottom of it.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you, I appreciate that.</p>		
159	4.1: ED	Senator Chisholm	Representations from the Tasmanian government or Tassie hydro	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: Sure. You did everything there but talk about what I asked about, which was the implementation of the National Energy Guarantee and its link to the Hydro Tasmania projects. I asked: has the department received, or is the department aware of the minister receiving, representations from the Tasmanian government or Tassie hydro about the viability of these projects and the implementation of the National Energy Guarantee?</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: No, not that I'm aware.</p> <p>Mr Heferen: We can take that on notice.</p>	Page 87	SQ18-000697
160	4.1: ED	Senator Chisholm	Feasibility of a second interconnector	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: I note that the government received the advice of John Tamblyn regarding the feasibility of a second interconnector across Bass Strait. Does the government have any plans to act on this study in the future?</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: The government has committed money towards assessing the feasibility of a second interconnector. In November last year, Tasmania and the Commonwealth government announced that they would jointly fund a \$20 million business case study into a second interconnector, and the Commonwealth contribution of up to \$10 million was provided through ARENA. As you know, there's the ongoing work through the Tasmanian government, and there's the contribution the Commonwealth government has made to assess the feasibility of a second</p>	Pages 87–88	SQ18-000695

			<p>interconnector. So that's probably the most significant next step following the Tamblyn report.</p> <p>Mr O'Toole: I must just add to that that TasNetworks, the network company within Tasmania, has also commenced the first stage of the regulatory process, what we call the RIT-T, in relation to what they call project meridian or the second interconnect. They released their project specifications consultation report last month I think, so that will be available publicly. But the study that Mr Chisholm was referring to will obviously feed into the next stage, which is making the cost-benefit case for that interconnector.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Marinus Link?</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: Yes</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Does the department understand the current cost of a second interconnector?</p> <p>Mr O'Toole: We saw the early estimates of around \$1.4 billion, which were public, but obviously that was very early and is subject to change as they firm that up.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Has the Tasmanian government made any representations to the federal government about the funding of a second interconnector following the release of this study?</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: We can take that on notice. I'm not aware of specific representations made to myself or staff in my division about funding, but it's possible the topic has come up in other contexts, and I just want to check that to be sure.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: So you're not aware of whether the Tasmanian government has provided a business case for Commonwealth funding regarding a second interconnector?</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: As I said, there may be a business case that has been provided to the Commonwealth, but I</p>		
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				want to check the status of such communications and any meetings that might have taken place in the context of that. Off the top of my head, I can't recall.		
161	4.1 ED	Senator Keneally	Contribution of the Renewable Energy Target	<p>Senator KENEALLY: The government does point out that the electricity sector will meet its 26 per cent emissions reduction target on 2005 levels by 2030 and most of that will, in fact, be met in the early 2020s. What contribution has the RET made to meeting this target?</p> <p>Mr Heferen: The minister's been very clear that the 26 per cent below 2005 level will be met in the National Electricity Market, not the electricity sector more broadly. So, when he speaks, he will be talking about the NEM.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Yes, that's more precise wording—you're correct.</p> <p>Mr Heferen: He's very clear about definitely in the NEM. We're not sure what will happen to the broader electricity sector, but it may occur then. On the role that the RET plays within that, I think we would have to take that on notice to be specific. I will check with my colleagues.</p> <p>Mr Chisholm: To give you a precise sense of the contribution of the RET to the generation build, we'd probably need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I understand that. What we can conclude from the answers you're able to give tonight is that the RET has supported energy investment, and it will in fact be exceeded; the wholesale electricity prices are coming down and the RET has played a role in the decline—the wholesale drop in the Renewable Energy Target.</p> <p>Mr Heferen: For the 6.4 gigawatts that are necessary, the RET is clearly a driver. For the extra amount that's been built, there's debate. Is it the RET; is it the reduced cost of renewables or the reducing cost for both wind and large-scale solar? Also, there's the</p>	Page 92	SQ18-000693

				contribution that other state based targets have. There is a set of things coming together and overlaid is the reliability obligation, which, assuming it all goes ahead, will also provide a clear signal to the market about the renewables that will come in or are likely to come in. We will need to make sure there is capacity for them to be firmed so the generation will occur. Those things—the reliability, organisation, the role of the RET, the role of reduced costs of variable and renewable and state based targets—all in their own way will contribute. Clearly, the RET, with the 6.4, which is the bulk of the proposed 10, is a big part of it. As to how much, that is a matter we'll have to take on notice to provide a more accurate picture for you.		
162	4.1: ED	Senator Stoker	Electricity bills for Australian households and business	What is an example of something the Department of Energy and Environment has done to bring down electricity bills for Australian households and business? How much did an average Australian household save from this action?	Written	SQ18-000636
163	4.1: ED	Senator Stoker	Modelling of electricity in households in FY19-20, 20-21 and 21-22?	Has the Department modelled what an average Australian household will be paying for electricity in FY19-20, 20-21 and 21-22? If so, how much will they be paying?	Written	SQ18-000637
164	4.1: ED	Senator Stoker	Model of gas in households in FY19-20, 20-21 and 21-22?	Has the Department modelled what an average Australian household will be paying for gas in FY19-20, 20-21 and 21-22? If so, how much will they be paying?	Written	SQ18-000638
165	4.1: ED	Senator Stoker	Meeting between AGL and Departmental employees	Has the Department met with any AGL employees in the last two years? If so, who and when? What was discussed?	Written	SQ18-000639
166	4.1: ED	Senator Stoker	Gas shortages	What information has the Department provided or received about upcoming gas shortages? Please provide details of advice about any gas shortage.	Written	SQ18-000640
167	4.1: ED	Senator Stoker	Meeting with Tesla	Has the Department had any meetings with any	Written	SQ18-000641

				representatives of Tesla? If so, who and when? What was broadly discussed?		
168	4.1: ED	Senator Stoker	NEG Staffing	What extra staffing was required by the Department in relation to work on the National Energy Guarantee?	Written	SQ18-000642
169	4.1: ED	Senator Stoker	Industry Groups seconded for the NEG	What industry group employees were seconded to the Department in the formulation of the National Energy Guarantee? a. What roles did they perform? b. Where these staff provided with any accommodation, meals or transport expenses? c. If so, how much did this cost the Department?	Written	SQ18-000643
170	4.1: ED	Senator Storer	Energy policy announcements	Which elements of the energy policy announced by the Energy Minister on 23 October 2018 will require federal legislation to implement?	Written	SQ18-000743
171	4.1: ED	Senator Storer	Small Scale Renewable Energy Scheme	Has the Department given any advice to the Energy Minister on scaling back, or phasing out, the Small-Scale Renewable Energy Scheme, sooner than currently planned?	Written	SQ18-000744
172	4.1: ED	Senator Storer	Rooftop solar systems South Australia	How many rooftop solar systems have been installed in South Australia? What is their geographic distribution?	Written	SQ18-000745
173	4.1: ED	Senator Storer	Home battery systems in South Australia	How many home battery systems have been installed in South Australia?	Written	SQ18-000746
174	4.1: ED	Senator Leyonhjelm	Electricity generation assets	What are the costs and benefits of the Government owning electricity generation assets? Do the costs and benefits differ depending upon whether the assets are renewable rather than non-renewable electricity generation assets?	Written	SQ18-000747
175	4.1: ED	Senator Leyonhjelm	Small scale renewable certificates	Has the Department advised the current Environment Minister of the option to reduce the ceiling price for small scale renewable certificates?	Written	SQ18-000748
176	4.1: ED	Senator Keneally	Reports on Coal Fired Power Stations	Has the Department received any reports from external stakeholders or experts on the feasibility of extensions in the operational life of existing coal fired power stations?	Written	SQ18-000762

				<p>a. If so, when were these reports received?</p> <p>b. Who were the authors?</p> <p>c. Did these reports assess the Liddell power station?</p> <p>d. Was the Minister's office briefed on the contents of these reports?</p> <p>i. If so, when?</p> <p>ii. If not, why has the government has been publicly advocating for the extension of Liddell power station with this relevant briefing provided to the Minister?</p>		
177	4.1: ED	Senator Keneally	Advisian Report on Coal Fired Power Stations – Potential Safety Reports	<p>During Estimates, Senator Keneally asked: <i>Senator KENEALLY: I can tell you that some people have heard of them, Minister. Can I put on notice not only if the department is aware they've received these reports, or if they have received them, but also what the reports show in relation to the deterioration of the plant, the potential safety risks and whether or not the minister's office was provided with any information about those reports?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Heferen: Yes, we'll take that on notice.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: And if it is the case that the department has received them and nobody at the table seems to be aware of them, could I ask why it is the case the reports weren't escalated?</i></p> <p>Will the Department please advise whether they received feasibility reports authored by Advisian, and what these reports detailed in relation to potential safety risks and plant deterioration?</p>	Written	SQ18-000763
178	4.1: ED	Senator Keneally	Advisian Report on Coal Fired Power Stations – Briefing to Minister	<p>Was the Minister's office either provided with these reports, or briefed on the information they contained?</p>	Written	SQ18-000764
179	4.1: ED	Senator Keneally	Advisian Report on Coal Fired Power Stations Conclusions	<p>What were their conclusions regarding the extension of Liddell power station?</p>	Written	SQ18-000767
180	4.1: ED	Senator Keneally	Contributions from the RET	<p>During Estimates, Senator Keneally asked: <i>Senator KENEALLY: The government does point out</i></p>	Written	SQ18-000820

				<p><i>that the electricity sector will meet its 26 per cent emissions reduction target on 2005 levels by 2030 and most of that will, in fact, be met in the early 2020s. What contribution has the RET made to meeting this target?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Heferen: The minister's been very clear that the 26 per cent below 2005 level will be met in the National Electricity Market, not the electricity sector more broadly. So, when he speaks, he will be talking about the NEM.</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: Yes, that's more precise wording—you're correct.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Heferen: He's very clear about definitely in the NEM. We're not sure what will happen to the broader electricity sector, but it may occur then. On the role that the RET plays within that, I think we would have to take that on notice to be specific. I will check with my colleagues.</i></p> <p>What contribution has the RET made to meeting the government's emissions reductions target?</p>		
181	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)	Senator Hanson-Young	Funded Projects	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Mr Miller, could you give us on notice a list of all the projects that ARENA has funded, committed to funding, or is in consideration of, in South Australia?</p> <p>Mr Miller: We'll take that on notice.</p>	Page 81	SQ18-000654
182	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)	Senator Patrick	Tritium Projects	<p>Senator PATRICK: It's blue sky enough that it would have a risk profile where you couldn't get normal funding for it. So they are not seeking funding in the normal channels in North America, but seeking other entrepreneurial funding now.</p> <p>Mr Miller: We don't track projects that we don't fund in a systematic way. It might be anecdotal. We have a lot of people who know things in the space. We might hear about something, but it is certainly not something we formally track. In this particular case, as I said, I don't know about the project or the approach that was made and whether they ought to have been funded by</p>	Pages 82–83	SQ18-000658

				<p>ARENA, whether they were too early or applied in the wrong way. I couldn't tell you exactly what the outcome was there. I'm happy to look into it and get back to you, if that would help.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: That might be useful. I say that noting that Tritium went on and have successfully developed the technology that they were pursuing originally through ARENA.</p> <p>Mr Miller: On that one, I would just say that we gave them substantial feedback on their approach to us, which lacked detail in relation to the project plan, the deliverables, the knowledge-sharing plan—there were a bunch of things in their application that made that an unsuccessful approach. We gave them feedback and asked them to resubmit their application, which they never did. That was two years ago. They are in the background of an approach that's being made to us currently by a group called Fast Cities, which is backed by Trevor St Baker. I believe he is involved in Tritium as well. That application is in progress with us right now.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I stress that they didn't complain to us. I asked them questions and they responded quite honestly that they thought they were too far ahead. If you wouldn't mind taking this on notice, because I've also got the response from ARENA which also suggested that, for example, the proposal wasn't as well written as it might have been. But I do recall assisting this particular company, making sure they were aware of ARENA, whatever assistance I could give. I went and visited a CRC they were working with. There was some stumbling that took place at the start. The director of this company was very open to any assistance or meeting any of those application requirements that you had. So I wonder if you could also perhaps have a look at that as well.</p> <p>Mr Miller: Sure.</p>		
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183	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)	Senator Stoker	ARENA actions and policies to reduce electricity bills	What are the key actions/policies undertaken by ARENA to bring down electricity bills for Australian households and business? How much has an average household or business saved from your action?	Written	SQ18-000644
184	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)	Senator Stoker	Travel expenditure	How much has ARENA spent on travel in the last three years?	Written	SQ18-000645
185	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)	Senator Stoker	Carbon offset	Does ARENA use carbon offset for air travel? If so, how much has this cost over the last three years?	Written	SQ18-000646
186	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)	Senator Stoker	International travel expenditure	How much has ARENA spent on international travel in the last three years?	Written	SQ18-000647
187	Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	Senator Urquhart	Staff locations	<p>Senator URQUHART: Can you confirm the number of staff that are currently employed by the bureau?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: We have an ASL of 1,569. That translates into a headcount of around 1,800. I'd have to get the exact number; it changes on any given day.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Where are the staff employed?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: The staff are employed at 56 locations around Australia.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you provide those locations for us?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: Sure.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you confirm how many—</p> <p>Dr Johnson: Sorry, can I correct that? It's 52 sites.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Could you provide us with those?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: Yes.</p>	Pages 17-18	SQ18-000660

188	Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	Senator Urquhart	Meteorologists employed in 2017-18	<p>Senator URQUHART: Can you confirm how many forecasters are employed by the bureau, how many there are currently, and how many there were at the end of the last financial year?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: It would be helpful, rather than using the term 'forecasters', if we could use the term 'meteorologists'. We currently have 317 people who define themselves as meteorologists in the organisation. Of those, roughly 273 are in operational roles.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So there are 317 now and 273 in operational roles.</p> <p>Dr Johnson: Yes.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many were there at the end of the last financial year?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: I'd have to take that on notice, Senator. I don't believe there's been any change, or any material change. There may have been some minor changes due to retirements and things like that.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Okay; if you could come back with that.</p>	Page 18	SQ18-000663
189	Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	Senator Urquhart	Meteorologists per state	<p>Senator URQUHART: Out of that number, can you tell me roughly where they are employed? How many are there in each state?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: The staff numbers vary across states. Our largest complement is in New South Wales; there are roughly broadly similar numbers in Queensland, Western Australia and Victoria.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: I can get you those exact numbers, Senator. Broadly speaking, the largest cohorts are in the bigger states with the larger populations; the smaller states have a smaller number of meteorologists.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Do you know roughly how many there would be in those larger states?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: I can give you the exact numbers, if you</p>	Page 18	SQ18-000664

				want. Senator URQUHART: Yes. Give me a rough breakdown now and then provide me with the details later.		
190	Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	Senator Urquhart	Contracted Meteorologists	<p>Senator URQUHART: Have you increased the number of contractors and consultants employed?</p> <p>Dr Johnson: We've certainly increased the number of contractors in the bureau. I'd have to double-check on consultants whether the current level of consultants we have employed in the bureau is higher or lower. To be absolutely clear, why we've increased the level of contractors, as you know, in the last budget and the budget before, is because the government made a very significant investment in the bureau to build the security, stability and resilience of our ICT and observing systems. That is, perhaps, Senator Georgiou, the largest transformation in the bureau's 108-year history. That's a very, very large project and there's no way we could deliver that project by 2022 without an increase in capability. And most of the capability is coming through contractors.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: But that's more about your ICT rather than—</p> <p>Dr Johnson: ICT and observings. It is core. The business we're in, the weather business, is a big data business. It's a high-performance computing business, it's an observing business.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Absolutely. I guess my questions were specifically around meteorological staff.</p> <p>Dr Johnson: Meteorologists, no. I'd have to double-check but I don't believe we've got any contract meteorologists.</p>	Page 24	SQ18-000669
191	Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	Senator Stoker	Data for the IPCC report	Was the Bureau asked for data from the IPCC in preparation for their latest report? If so, which data?	Written	SQ18-000648

192	Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	Senator Keneally	Increase in overlap of bushfire seasons	Are we seeing increasing overlap of bushfire seasons between the northern and southern hemispheres? a. Is this likely to increase in the coming years?	Written	SQ18-000818
193	Clean Energy Regulator (CER)	Senator Storer	Emissions Reduction Fund – Seaweed method	<p>Senator STORER: Specifically, is something for methane emissions from cattle a possible project?</p> <p>Ms Thompson: There are a number of methods that allow emissions reduction from livestock. There are some methods that rely on feeding livestock herd additives. There's another method which is all about making the herd more productive and essentially getting poorly producing animals off the farm quicker and into meat production more quickly. There are various options.</p> <p>Senator STORER: I read one with regards to seaweed as an additive.</p> <p>Ms Thompson: Yes. That's right, I believe that's one of the things that you can add to the feed to reduce the methane emissions from the gut of the ruminant.</p> <p>Senator STORER: Do you know if that has that been successful?</p> <p>Ms Thompson: I don't think there's been very high uptake with some of those methods. We could take that on notice if you like. The figures I've got for uptake of the agriculture methods are at a high level; it doesn't go down into individual categories.</p> <p>Senator STORER: Okay. Thank you.</p>	Pages 70–71	SQ18-000876
194	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Stoker	CCA actions and policies to reduce electricity bills	What are the key actions/policies undertaken by the Climate Change Authority to bring down electricity bills for Australian households and business? How much has an average household or business saved from your action?	Written	SQ18-000649
195	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Stoker	Employment by the Authority	In your 2016-17 Annual Report it stated that \$566,000 has been spent on voluntary redundancies. How many people have been employed by the Authority since the publication of this annual report?	Written	SQ18-000650

196	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Keneally	CCA current work	Can you update us on what the CCA is currently working on? Please included any work on: a. The integration or impacts of electric vehicles, b. Policies to lower emissions in the industrial sector, c. The efficient allocation of national abatement goals to economic sectors, d. The international carbon offset market post 2020? 2. When do you expect those reports will be completed?	Written	SQ18-000768
197	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Keneally	CCA Additional projects/ reviews commissioned by the governeemt	Are there any additional projects/reviews in the pipeline? a. Are these commissioned by the government or CCA self-commissioned work?	Written	SQ18-000769
198	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Keneally	CCA Minster interactions	Has the Minister instructed the CCA to undertake any further projects? a.How often does the Minister interact with the CCA?	Written	SQ18-000770
199	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Keneally	CCA FTE Staff	How many FTE-equivalent staff does the CCA currently employee?	Written	SQ18-000771
200	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Keneally	CCA Budget allocation	What is the current budget of the CCA, over the next four years? a. Is the funding allocated to the CCA sufficient to perform the current work plan? b. Is the funding allocated to the CCA sufficient to perform additional work/analysis over the next three years?	Written	SQ18-000772
201	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Keneally	CCA involvement in Paris emission reductions targets	Is the CCA involved in any broader cross-portfolio work regarding the current government's commitment to reaching the Paris emission reductions targets?	Written	SQ18-000773
202	Climate Change Authority (CCA)	Senator Keneally	CCA Funding	Has the uncertainty of the future of CCA's funding limited your work scope?	Written	SQ18-000774

203	Director of National Parks	Senator Siewert	Kakadu Buffalo Farm scope of service	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I want to come back to that, sorry. Do you remember we talked a while ago about your answer to question on notice 256, about what the scope of service is? As you've said previously, it was outlined through the park manager on 21 November 2017. Has there been any further work done on that?</p> <p>Dr West: What did you say—what was the first part of the sentence?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Sorry. Previously, we were talking about letters that have been exchanged, as I recall, with yourself, and you said that there have been letters around the scope of service that would be undertaken—what sorts of services would be provided by Mr Lindner. Has that been developed further?</p> <p>Dr West: Are you referring to making meat available for traditional owners?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I beg your pardon, sorry, yes.</p> <p>Dr West: Once the permit is approved and granted, and as long as the conditions of that are found, then he would be able to provide meat to the traditional owners.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay, thank you. Now I want to come to the environmental impact statement from 1989. Am I able to obtain a copy of that, and any applications? Do you have copies of the applications for operations that were made from that time?</p> <p>Mr Gibbs: I think we need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Obviously, you need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Gibbs: Yes, we'll take that on notice.</p>	Pages 94–95	SQ18-000689
204	Director of National Parks	Senator Siewert	Kakadu Buffalo Farm cultural heritage assessment	<p>Senator SIEWERT: What about a cultural heritage assessment? That was done, in fact, in 1988-89, so at the same period of time. Are you able to provide a copy of that and outline who did it—who undertook it? On notice, obviously.</p> <p>Dr West: Yes, if we can find it. Our archives are what we'd need to look at.</p>	Page 95	SQ18-000687

205	Director of National Parks	Senator Siewert	Kakadu National Park - Involvement of traditional owners in decision-making	<p>Senator SIEWERT: You may need to take this one on notice, but are you able to give us an up-to-date rundown of what other areas of management and decision-making that traditional owners are involved with in terms of the park, so a day-to-day point of view? I'm trying to look at where the employment is, where they are involved in decision-making and where current employment opportunities are in the park. Is that something you'd need to take on notice?</p> <p>Dr West: In more detail we can, but we do employ a large number of Indigenous and traditional owners on the park. They are involved in almost all of the activities on park. I can give you some numbers in a second. I will just find the Kakadu one. In the last year, 137 people were employed on the park. About 67 per cent of our total number of staff recognise themselves as Indigenous.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I'm not questioning what you've just said about Indigenous members, but I'm trying to be clear: when you say 'Indigenous', do you mean they're all from traditional owner clans?</p> <p>Mr Gibbs: We would rely on the Northern Land Council for that advice and we would take their advice on who the traditional owner groups are for particular areas.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes. I'm not questioning that you wouldn't take that advice, but, to be blunt, sometimes people say, 'We're employing Indigenous people,' but they're not the traditional owners; they're from interstate or something. I'm not saying that's a good or bad thing, but I'm particularly keen to look at local employment. With the 137, the 67 per cent, are they all traditional owners or from the local Aboriginal groups?</p> <p>Dr West: From the families within Kakadu.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay. That's what I was trying to make sure.</p>	Page 96	SQ18-000685
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206	Director of National Parks	Senator Siewert	Kakadu National Park federal budget	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Can give me or take on notice the total federal budget expenditure on Kakadu?</p> <p>Dr West: I prefer to take that on notice rather than give a figure that is not correct.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could take it on notice, that would be great.</p>	Page 97	SQ18-000683
207	Director of National Parks	Senator Chisholm	International Marine Parks	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: When you said Australia was the second largest, how is that calculated?</p> <p>Mr Mundy: By reference to the US, which has a larger area that it declares as protected.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Area in terms of square kilometres?</p> <p>Mr Mundy: Correct.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: What is the third largest?</p> <p>Mr Mundy: I believe it is France. I can have a quick look at some numbers here to see if I can validate that. I might take that on notice, if that's okay.</p>	Page 97	SQ18-000681
208	Director of National Parks	Senator Chisholm	Commonwealth National Parks budget	<p>Senator CHISHOLM: Moving on to national parks, are there separate budgets for each Commonwealth national park?</p> <p>Dr West: Yes.</p> <p>Senator CHISHOLM: Would it be possible to take on notice what they are, for each national park?</p> <p>Dr West: Yes, we can do that.</p>	Page 97	SQ18-000679
209	Director of National Parks	Senator Urquhart	Commonwealth National Parks Climate Change Strategy	<p>Senator URQUHART: Do you have a plan put in place for each of the national parks about how you are going to protect the environment within the parks with increasing climate?</p> <p>Dr West: Not for each park. We haven't done it for Norfolk Island.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Why not?</p> <p>Dr West: It's probably not as prone to aspects of change. It is sitting near the ocean; it is isolated. It hasn't been such a high priority, I suppose. That's not to say it's not significant. In Booderee National Park, down the south coast of New South Wales, we also have fairly strict controls on fire there as well.</p>	Page 99	SQ18-000676

				<p>Senator URQUHART: So you have a plan. Are you able to provide those plans to the committee?</p> <p>Dr West: What we could do is provide you with the draft of the climate change strategy we are putting together for the whole of parks at this stage.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: That would be good. Thanks</p>		
210	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Waters	Pacific Explorer cruise ship spill	<p>Senator WATERS: Does GBRMPA not normally have a role when the marine park is polluted?</p> <p>Dr Banks: Yes. We'll provide environmental advice on concerns about environmental impacts associated with an event.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Did you do so for this spill?</p> <p>Dr Banks: Not that I'm aware of, but I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Could you, and also, if you didn't provide advice, why not.</p> <p>Dr Banks: Yes.</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: To put it in context, there is an agreement in the marine park between the state maritime body; the federal maritime body, AMSA; and us. It spells out the roles. Our expertise tends to be in assessing impacts on sensitive habitats, such as a drifting spill. We would take the lead on that. There's a formal incident response process—I forget the proper name, but it's the environmental adviser to the person. AMSA has powers of direction of vessels and other things that we don't have. In a serious incident, there's a special position called a Maritime Emergency Response Commander, MERCOM, and that sits with AMSA. We do the environmental. The state-AMSA split would depend on the seriousness and also the location, if it's in state waters.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: This was in the marine park.</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: In the marine park, I would expect us to be given a brief or be part of assessing that. I don't have the information either, but I want to reassure you there is a process. Can we take it on notice and answer</p>	Pages 42–43	SQ18-000883

				<p>your question properly.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Yes, thank you. Would GBRMPA normally be the body that would issue any sort of penalty or fine, or would that be AMSA or MSQ?</p> <p>Dr Banks: That would depend on the nature of the event, and that's considered in collection of evidence. We'll work with the other partner agencies like AMSA and MSQ about what sort of offences may have been committed.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Under your act as well as potentially under theirs?</p> <p>Dr Banks: Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Okay.</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: The way that works is, as Dr Banks said, through whoever is best equipped amongst the three of us put people in the field. It could be through the marine parks, the Queensland Police, AMSA or the emergency towage vessel, the Coral Knight. It would depend on where—in some remote places it might be someone from Torres Strait. They may divert aerial assets to assess an issue.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: This was just off Innisfail, so it wasn't remote. Can you tell me as much as you know about the agency's involvement.</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: Yes. We'll try to come back to you within the day or within the life of this.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Okay, and also whether or not this incident was made public.</p> <p>Dr Banks: I'm not aware. I'd have to take it on notice.</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: We'll follow it up.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. I look forward to your responses.</p>		
211	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	Senator Keneally	Crown-of-thorns starfish control activities	<p>Senator KENEALLY: I have some other questions about that report, but I will direct them to the department. I have just one more question for either</p>	Page 47	SQ18-000675

	(GBRMPA)			<p>you, Dr Reichelt, or Mr Elliot. You mentioned that you've granted a tender to three organisations this year to continue further crown-of-thorns starfish control activities. Have the value of those tenders been published?</p> <p>Mr Elliot: I probably will have to take that one on notice. I'm not aware of the—</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: The media reports are claiming that the value has not yet been published.</p> <p>Mr Elliot: The value of the contracts, or the work orders in this case?</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Elliot: I'd have to take that on notice. I'm not sure if they are. Most of them have only recently been finalised—that's the work orders themselves, or the individual contractors—so it might simply be that they haven't yet been published.</p>		
212	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Keneally	Assistance for the Great Barrier Reef Foundation	<p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. Dr Reichelt, I will just flag for you that I have a number of questions regarding contact with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, and I will put those on notice given the time we have available to us. Since we last spoke has the marine park authority offered any assistance to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation? If so, what kind and when? Have any of the staff specifically been seconded to the foundation?</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: I'll need to check with colleagues. My understanding is that our advice has been sought on technical issues and specifics. I'm not aware of any secondees.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: If we can be mindful of the time I'll put that question on notice.</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: We could document the time spent by our staff on that issue.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: There will be a few questions in this vein. What about media management, has the marine park authority had anything to do with the</p>	Pages 47–48	SQ18-000674

				<p>foundation with regard to media and communications? Can you provide any insight here today? Mr Elliot: Not really. The Great Barrier Reef Foundation has asked basically to sit down with our own communications staff to talk about media, so that we're not duplicating any communications, and we're looking for opportunities where we can co-message but that hasn't happened yet. Senator KENEALLY: Thank you.</p>		
213	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Keneally	GBR Foundation	<p>Has the GBRMPA been in contact with the GBR Foundation since they were given almost half a billion dollars? a. How often? b. In what capacity? c. Who in the GBRMPA deals with the Foundation?</p>	Written	SQ18-000803
214	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Keneally	GBR Foundation assistance	<p>Has the GBRMPA offered any assistance to the GBR Foundation? a. If so, what kind of assistance and when? b. Have any staff assisted the Foundation?</p>	Written	SQ18-000806
215	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Keneally	GBR Foundation - Media and communications	<p>Has GBRMPA had anything to do with the Foundation in regard to media or communications?</p>	Written	SQ18-000807
216	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Keneally	GBR Foundation - Staffing changes	<p>Have there been any staffing changes in at the Authority?</p>	Written	SQ18-000809
217	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Keneally	GBR Foundation - Partnerships in the Authority	<p>Who manages partnerships in the Authority? a. What kind of work do they do? b. Who do they consult with? c. What projects have they worked on?</p>	Written	SQ18-000810
218	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Keneally	GBR Foundation - Staffing working on partnerships	<p>Do you need more staff working on partnerships now that the Great Barrier Reef Foundation controls all of the Australian Government's funding for the reef?</p>	Written	SQ18-000812
219	Great Barrier	Senator	Crown-of-thorns	<p>During Estimates, Senator Keneally asked:</p>	Written	SQ18-000813

	Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Keneally	starfish control activities	<p><i>Senator KENEALLY: I have just one more question for either you, Dr Reichelt, or Mr Elliot. You mentioned that you've granted a tender to three organisations this year to continue further crown-of-thorns starfish control activities. Have the value of those tenders been published?</i></p> <p><i>Mr Elliot: I probably will have to take that one on notice. I'm not aware of the—</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: The media reports are claiming that the value has not yet been published.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Elliot: The value of the contracts, or the work orders in this case?</i></p> <p><i>Senator KENEALLY: Yes.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Elliot: I'd have to take that on notice. I'm not sure if they are. Most of them have only recently been finalised—that's the work orders themselves, or the individual contractors—so it might simply be that they haven't yet been published.</i></p> <p>What are the values of the three COTS control programs that the Authority has tendered this year, and to whom were they granted?</p>		
220	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Wish-Wilson	Coral Bleaching	<p>With an El Nino now more likely than not, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coral Watch Program already showing Alert Level 1, what is GBRMPA doing to prepare for another coral bleaching?</p>	Written	SQ18-000814
221	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Wish-Wilson	Coral Bleaching – surveying the event	<p>If a bleaching event occurs in 2019, will GBRMPA survey the impact of the event, including six months after the event, as it did in 2016?</p>	Written	SQ18-000816
222	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	Senator Waters	NOAA Coral Watch Program – coral bleaching	<p>With an El Nino now 70% likely, and the NOAA Coral Watch Program already showing Alert Level 1 (coral bleaching but not yet mortality) 13-16 weeks from 16 October, what is GBRMPA doing to prepare for the event?</p>	Written	SQ18-000854
223	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Di Natale	Energy markets on 9 July	<p>Senator DI NATALE: Thank you for taking me to another day, but I'm interested in what happened on 9</p>	Page 26	SQ18-000667

				<p>July as an example. At that time the gentailers pocketed an extra \$20 million just from South Australia alone. How much did you guys make on that day?</p> <p>Mr Broad: I'm not sure that we made anything from South Australia because our reach into South Australia from our whole—</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: No, I'm not talking about South Australia. How much did you make on that day by bidding in at that time?</p> <p>Mr Broad: I can't—</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Broad: I can take it on notice as to 9 July and the wholesale market. We can also look back and give you clearly what happened at various market times. If the prices are higher, it's usually because demand is greater than supply.</p> <p>Senator DI NATALE: But the Australian Energy Regulator said: Participants waited until high 5-minute (dispatch) prices had occurred early in a trading interval and in response shifted their offers to supply electricity from high to low prices, seeking to increase their output during the high priced trading interval. That was the comment from the AER. Are you saying that you weren't part of that?</p> <p>Mr Broad: I can't comment on the 9th. I can't even remember the day, to be quite frank, but I'll find out and give you some information.</p>		
224	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Keneally	Snowy 2.0 Costs	<p>Senator KENEALLY: How much has been spent so far on Snowy 2.0?</p> <p>Mr Broad: I'll come back to you with a precise amount, but it's in the order of \$120 million.</p>	Page 30	SQ18-000661
225	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Patrick	Levelised cost of storage	<p>Senator PATRICK: So that discounted cost of capital includes government funding?</p> <p>Mr Broad: No. We've made the argument right from day one that this is going to be paid within Snowy's</p>	Page 32	SQ18-000655

				<p>balance sheet. We will sit down with our shareholders, the government, and work out how we do that within the balance sheet we have, which has to get our shareholders' sign-off. So we are looking at, within the wider balance sheet of Snowy Hydro, how that gets funded. We can be assured that with those sorts of returns and the fact that we're a triple B-plus rated company looking at moving up a couple of notches—we have a chance to go to an A or an A minus—we have enormous capacity to fund this project within our balance sheet.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Sure. If you could take on notice an updated levelised cost of storage; and provide the assumptions used in your modelling to generate the cost, I would be appreciative.</p>		
226	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Hanson-Young	Retail customers and standing offers	<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: And can I ask you: how many customers do you have in each of these retail categories? Have you got that? You must know?</p> <p>Mr Broad: In—sorry?</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Between the two retail—</p> <p>Senator Birmingham: In this jurisdiction?</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Between the retailers, Lumo Energy and Red Energy, and then in each of the jurisdictions—do you have the breakdown of that for us?</p> <p>Mr Broad: Not off the top of my head but I can certainly supply it.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: That would be helpful. And could I also ask: you said there are not many customers that you've got on these standing offers that I've highlighted. How many are we talking about?</p> <p>Mr Broad: The total standing offers we have is about 3,000 across 1.1 million.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: And that's across the three different jurisdictions?</p> <p>Mr Broad: The four.</p>	Page 36	SQ18-000665

				<p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: And in South Australia, in particular?</p> <p>Mr Broad: Again, I'd have to supply that to you but it would be very small.</p> <p>Senator HANSON-YOUNG: As in tens or dozens? What's small?</p> <p>Mr Broad: Again, I'll have to get the number for you.</p>		
227	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Lake Eucumbene	As of Tuesday, 16 October 2018 Lake Eucumbene, the largest reservoir in the Snowy Hydro Scheme, sat at 22.98% capacity according to the Snowy Hydro website. At the same time last year, it was over 42%. Will these low levels have an effect on generation capacity and/or total electricity generation for this coming summer?	Written	SQ18-000624
228	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Valley Power Peaking Facility	In 2007 during drought conditions, Snowy Hydro had to increase the use of its Valley Power Peaking Facility which uses old aircraft jet engines to drive its turbines. How much total output (MW/h) has Snowy Hydro scheduled/predicted from the Valley Power Peaking Facility between Saturday, 1 December 2018 and Thursday, 28 February 2019.	Written	SQ18-000625
229	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Gas Peaking Facilities	What is the cost per MW/h to run each of the three Snowy Hydro-owned gas peaking facilities (Laverton North, Valley Power and Colongra)?	Written	SQ18-000626
230	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Profit of Gas Peaking Facilities	How much profit did Snowy Hydro's gas peaking facilities make over FY15-16, 16-17, 17-18?	Written	SQ18-000627
231	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Red Energy advertising	How much has Red Energy, owned by Snowy Hydro, spent on advertising over FY15-16, 16-17, 17-18?	Written	SQ18-000628
232	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Red Energy profits	How much has Red Energy made in profit over FY15-16, 16-17, 17-18?	Written	SQ18-000632
233	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Red Energy's executive team	How much has been paid to Red Energy's executive team over FY15-16, 16-17, 17-18?	Written	SQ18-000629
234	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Snowy Hydro executive team bonuses	How much has been paid to Snowy Hydro's executive team in bonuses over FY15-16, 16-17, 17-18?	Written	SQ18-000630

235	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Stoker	Snowy 2.0	Including transmission upgrades, it has been reported 'Snowy 2.0' will cost approximately \$6.5 billion instead of the \$2 billion announced by the Turnbull Government in March 2017. When will you release Snowy 2.0's full business case and cost estimates discussed (but not released) in the project's feasibility study? Can you confirm reports that costs have grown to \$6.5 billion or higher?	Written	SQ18-000631
236	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Keneally	Support of the National Energy Guarantee	Is it correct that Snowy Hydro Limited was a supporter of the National Energy Guarantee (NEG)? a. Why? b. What are the organization's views on the NEG now? c. What was it about the NEG policy that initially led the organization supporting the policy?	Written	SQ18-000765
237	Snowy Hydro Ltd	Senator Keneally	National electricity policy	The Government has said it will not introduce any national electricity policy that includes an emission reduction component, and it will not replace the RET when it is met by 2020. Do you think it would be better for the affordability of the system if there was a national electricity policy like the NEG that brought together reliability and emission reduction? Would the existence of such a policy be beneficial for the economic viability or business case of Snowy 2.0?	Written	SQ18-000766
Spill over hearing Friday, 16 November 2018						
238	1.4: BCD	Senator Urquhart	Australia's domestic trade in elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn	Senator URQUHART: These questions relate to Australia's domestic trade in elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn. Can you provide the figures as to the number of seizures since last estimates and a breakdown as to their composition and the plan for addressing these figures? Can you also inform the committee as to whether the government is working on developing a plan for a domestic trade ban on elephant ivory and rhino horn with the states and	Pages 32-33	SQ18-000885

				<p>territories? I guess you're aware of the findings of the recent parliamentary inquiry. Is there a response on behalf of the government to that report? There should be at some stage, but I don't know when. Can you speak about whether the government will accept the recommendations of the report?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: Senator, as I mentioned to you during the break, the officials for that area of the department aren't here, but, that being said, the response to the Senate inquiry will be a matter for the government, including whether they accept the recommendations or not. I think, as we testified before that inquiry, obviously any consideration with respect to domestic action internal to Australia will require the cooperation of the states and territories, but the decision has not been made by government as to whether they're going to pursue a domestic ban. We'd need to consider that in light of that decision. The other questions, in terms of the specifics on seizures, are something that we would take on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Okay. Can I ask Senator Fawcett to take on notice the questions about the response to the inquiry? I know you're not the relevant minister, but could you take on notice when the response will come through and whether or not the government will accept the recommendations?</p> <p>Senator Fawcett: Sure. I'm aware that we are currently considering it, but I'll take on notice a time frame for the response.</p>		
239	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Projects in the World Heritage Areas	<p>Senator URQUHART: Okay. Has the department recently determined any quite small projects in World Heritage areas to be controlled actions?</p> <p>Mr Barker: I would have to take on notice the particular examples of those in World Heritage areas, but there have been small proposals in World Heritage areas that have not been controlled actions, and we do also have a number that have been determined</p>	Page 9	SQ18-000886

				controlled actions. Again, it depends on the analysis of the particular nature of that activity and the particular values of the particular World Heritage area, and we do that on the merits, on a case-by-case basis.		
240	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Helicopter flights to Lake Malbena to deal with maintenance issues	<p>Senator URQUHART: If there are 30 trips for recreational visitors—or tourists, or whatever that is deemed—how many other flights are there to deal with the maintenance issues, the servicing and the removal of waste? What are the additional numbers?</p> <p>Mr Barker: I might have to take that particular question on notice. I think there is an allowable tolerance, if you like, of some changes in the numbers, depending on what the—</p>	Page 9	SQ18-000887
241	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Quantity of helicopter flights to Lake Malbena to deal with maintenance issues	<p>Senator URQUHART: If you have 30 flights with people, there are a lot more than 30 flights if you are doing maintenance in and out, taking waste in and out, and provisions and whatever else is required?</p> <p>Mr Barker: It is more than 30, but I wouldn't necessarily say it is a lot more than that. I would have to take on notice the precise expectation of the numbers. Again, our assessment—</p>	Pages 9–10	SQ18-000888
242	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Quantity of additional helicopter flights to Lake Malbena	<p>Senator URQUHART: How many additional flights did you take into the area?</p> <p>Mr Barker: Again, I would have to take on notice the precise number of additional flights that might be required. But, as I have flagged, there is some allowance for flights that might be needed for maintenance—unscheduled maintenance—in relation to particular weather events, for example. I wouldn't expect the numbers to be prescriptively locked down, but our expectation was that the number of additional flights for servicing and maintenance would certainly not be significantly in excess of the numbers that we had assessed for the purpose of accommodation access in from and out to the area.</p>	Page 10	SQ18-000889
243	1.5: ESD	Senator	Invitations to	Senator URQUHART: Can you provide, on notice,	Page 13	SQ18-000890

		Urquhart	referrals	<p>how many times Mr Scullion has been invited to comment on referrals and how many times he has responded? I'm happy for you to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Barker: We would have to take that on notice, although I would comment that it may be difficult for us to get that data, given that we write a lot of these letters to ministers seeking comment, so the volume of cases where we seek that comment could be substantial.</p>		
244	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Helicopter flights to Lake Malbena – additional flights	<p>Senator URQUHART: What were the proponent's numbers on the maintenance schedules and the wait?</p> <p>Mr Barker: Senator, as I flagged, you would expect there would be, with the incidental activity, an amount of activity that can't be predicted if there has to be maintenance, for example, because of unforeseen wear events.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Just standard. If we just talk about standard maintenance and the waste—</p> <p>Mr Barker: I'd need to take on notice the specific number of additional flights that might be separately associated with the flights that some of those—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Was that taken into account in the assessment?</p> <p>Mr Barker: It was taken into account that there might be incidental flights, but the briefing that you're referring to that you have in front of you does not talk about a precise number for those incidental flights.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: No, but did you, in your assessment, take into account a precise number?</p> <p>Mr Barker: We didn't take into account a precise number, because it's an incidental activity to the primary activity, which was the 30—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: So you only took into account the primary activity, which was getting people in and out?</p> <p>Mr Barker: We took the incidental flights into account, but not in terms of a precise number, because</p>	Pages 27–28	SQ18-000891

				<p>of the necessary—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Roughly how many did you take into account?</p> <p>Mr Barker: What we took into account was the known maximum number—and, of course, it could be less than that—as well as the—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: The known maximum number being the 30 return?</p> <p>Mr Barker: The 30, as well as being aware that there could be incidental flights associated with servicing the site.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How do staff get in and out? Are they in that 30 return?</p> <p>Mr Barker: Again, the 30 flights are for paying customers, and there may be inclusion of staff in those.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: How many in the helicopters? In this documentation I think it said the helicopters had five passengers plus a pilot.</p> <p>Mr Barker: I'd have to take on notice the potential for additions, but we did allow for the fact that there might be, as I said, incidental flights associated with the overall activity.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: But, surely, if there are visitors going into the area and there are 30 return flights—so there are, effectively, 60 flights—for those paying customers, tourists or whatever you want to call them, and you then have staff in addition, I assume they need to go in another helicopter if you've got five paying customers in each of the helicopters. Or are you going to hang them in the net on the sling!</p> <p>Mr Barker: I think it's just going to depend on whether the helicopter's full and the general scheduling around the flights. I would have to take that on notice</p>		
245	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Environmental impacts of land	<p>Mr Tregurtha: Again, what I'd say is that, when we look at that, we then apply conditions to each of those</p>	Page 32	SQ18-000892

			<p>clearing - Great Barrier Reef catchment area</p>	<p>projects, so we might restrict the land clearing. For example, in—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Sorry; are you able to provide that to me?</p> <p>Mr Tregurtha: We don't assess the entirety of the Great Barrier Reef or the entirety of the clearing in one go. We look at it on a project-by-project basis.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I get that, but are you able to provide the environmental impacts for each of those?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: We're happy to come back with the specifics on individual projects. If I can turn to Mr Sturgiss, he can give you a better sense of what the cumulative impacts are with respect to land clearing in the catchment area.</p>		
246	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	<p>Status on the referral of the Snowy Hydro</p>	<p>Senator URQUHART: I have a couple of questions around the EPBC Act. The Turnbull government identified, as part of a grant funded project at the ANU, through the Australian Renewable Energy Agency, 185 potential sites for pumped hydro energy storage in Australia. That was noted in Minister Frydenberg's media release dated 16 June 2017. Can you update the committee on any proposals that are pending government approval in terms of pumped hydro sites that have been submitted in the subsequent 15 months from that?</p> <p>Mr Tregurtha: The department has received a referral from the Snowy Hydro in relation to that project, so that consideration process is underway on that particular project. I'm not aware of any other pumped hydro projects that have been referred to us at the moment, but we will take on notice to check that and come back to you on notice as to whether there are any more.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Do you have a status on the referral of the Snowy Hydro and where that's at?</p> <p>Mr Tregurtha: I will ask Ms Farrant to update you on that.</p>	Page 33	SQ18-000893

				<p>Ms Farrant: As Mr Tregurtha said, we have received a referral for the main works for Snowy Hydro 2.0. It's currently under assessment, in the very early stages of considering the referral.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: What's the time frame that you expect that that would take?</p> <p>Ms Farrant: It's being assessed on the Commonwealth's behalf ultimately by the New South Wales government, so it will be quite some time—well into next year, I expect.</p> <p>Mr Knudson: Just to be clear, we think there may be some other pumped hydro projects, but we're not sure what their status is, so we'll come back on notice.</p> <p>Mr Tregurtha: I'm pretty confident that Snowy Hydro is our only referred project—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you just take it on notice?</p> <p>Mr Tregurtha: Yes, I'll take it on notice to come back and confirm.</p>		
247	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Rezoning of Lake Malbena	<p>In relation to zoning of Lake Malbena and the surrounding shoreline in the Tasmanian Government's 2016 Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA) Master Plan Mr Barker stated "I'm not aware that it was recently rezoned".</p> <p>The 1999 TWWHA Management Plan zoned all but a small eastern corner of Lake Malbena as "Wilderness", with all but a small portion of the eastern shoreline surrounding Lake Malbena as "Wilderness". The small eastern corner of Lake Malbena and the small portion of the eastern shoreline surrounding Lake Malbena were zoned as "Self-Reliant Recreational". The 2016 TWWHA Management Plan changed the zoning for all of Lake Malbena to "Self-Reliant Recreational". The 2016 Plan also changed the zoning for the north-east and south-east shoreline surrounding Lake Malbena to "Self-Reliant Recreational". Only the north-west and</p>	Written	SQ18-000910

				<p>south-west shoreline surrounding Lake Malbena remain zoned as “Wilderness”.</p> <p>The boundary of the Walls of Jerusalem National Park has not changed. The boundary of the national park with the Central Plateau Conservation Area remains to be the south-eastern edge of Lake Malbena and the eastern side of the Nive River between Lake Malbena and Lake Ingrid.</p> <p>In 2014, the Tasmanian Government invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) for ecotourism developments in Tasmania’s national parks and reserve areas through a non-statutory process. EOIs closed on 21 November 2014. The Lake Malbena / Halls Island proposal was one of the EOIs received. Weeks later, in January 2015, the Tasmanian Government released the 2014 Draft TWWHA Plan for comment with the zoning for and near Lake Malbena changed (as per above) to suit the Lake Malbena / Halls Island proposal. The change in zoning was not highlighted in the Draft Plan.</p> <p>FOI 181005 Attachment C Parts 1 and 2 (the submissions to the Australian Government’s Department of the Environment and Energy) includes at least 12 submissions that referenced the Tasmanian Government’s rezoning of Lake Malbena and the surrounding shoreline. Document 29 explains how this change has facilitated the project – “under the terms of the TWWHA Management Plan 2016, ‘standing camps’ are permitted in ‘remote recreation zones’ (<i>self-reliant recreation zones</i>), whereas they are not permitted in ‘wilderness zones’” (Page 111 of Part 1) (Italics added for clarification). Document 126 includes maps in the 1999 TWWHA Management Plan and the 2014 TWWHA Draft Management Plan (which would become the 2016 TWWHA Management Plan) (Page 141 of Part 2).</p>		
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				<p>I note that Page 3 of the Department of the Environment and Energy brief notes that the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Management Plan was finalised in 2016, the DoEE found the new plan was not inconsistent with the World Heritage Management Principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EPBC Regulations 2000, and that the project area is located within the Self-Reliant Recreation Zone. However, it is not noted anywhere in the brief that Lake Malbena and part of the shoreline was rezoned from “Wilderness” to “Self-Reliant Recreation”. Considering the evidence included in at least 12 submissions and the DoEE’s own review, why was the rezoning of Lake Malbena and surrounding shoreline not included in the brief?</p>		
248	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	<p>2016 Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Management Plan – rezoning Lake Malbena</p>	<p>When the DoEE reviewed the 2016 Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Management Plan was analysis of the rezoning of Lake Malbena and surrounding shorelines taken into account?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. If so, what was the analysis that changing the zoning would not be inconsistent with the World Heritage Management Principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EPBC Regulations 2000? If not, why not? ii. Did the Department of the Environment and Energy request any information or justification from the Tasmanian Government on why Lake Malbena and surrounding shoreline was rezoned from “wilderness” to “self-reliant recreation zone”? If so, what was that advice? If not, why not? iii. Did the Department of the Environment and Energy request any justification from the Tasmanian Government on how the rezoning of Lake Malbena and surrounding shoreline improves or protects the outstanding universal values of Halls Island, Lake 	Written	SQ18-000911

				Malbena and the shoreline? If so, what was that advice? If not, why not?		
249	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Rezoned parts of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area	<p>Is the DoEE aware of any other parts of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area that were rezoned in the 2016 Master Plan from “wilderness” to “self-reliant recreation zone”?</p> <p>i. If so, what was the analysis that changing the zoning would not be inconsistent with the World Heritage Management Principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EPBC Regulations 2000?</p> <p>ii. If not, does this raise concerns with the DoEE about why Lake Malbena was changed from “Wilderness” to “Self-Reliant Recreation”?</p>	Written	SQ18-000912
250	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	2016 Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Management Plan	If a 2016 Management Plan is not considered “recent” for a proposal lodged in 2018, please outline what is “recent” in the Department’s eyes?	Written	SQ18-000913
251	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Concerns raised by the World Heritage Committee	<p>I note that the World Heritage Committee’s “Analysis and Conclusion by World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in 2018” stated:</p> <p><i>“Furthermore, some of the provisions in the 2016 Management Plan raise concerns, in particular the rezoning of some areas from “wilderness” to “remote recreation” in order to allow for acceptable tourism opportunities and make provisions for wider aircraft access, which may have impacts on wilderness values of the property.”</i></p> <p>Was the decision maker aware of concerns raised by the World Heritage Committee that rezoning to allow tourism operations may have impacts on wilderness values of the property? If so, why were these concerns not included in the brief for the decision maker? If not, why not?</p>	Written	SQ18-000914
252	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Halls Creek Lake Malbena development –	At least 16 submissions detail clearly, the inherent risk to a number of endangered species that the development poses. These specifically relate to, but	Written	SQ18-000915

			Wedge Tail Eagle	are not limited to, the Wedge Tail Eagle and its nests. How is it that the numerous submissions outlining these concerns have been ignored?		
253	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – flight paths	What assurance, if any, can be given that Eagle nesting sites will not be disturbed? The brief states “it is recommended, where possible, helicopters not fly within 1 km line of sight of known eagles nests and specifically that tours do not include a ‘viewing’ of the nest”. What about when this is ‘not possible’? Will flights still occur? Why has the Department imposed no formal restrictions on the helicopter flight paths?	Written	SQ18-000916
254	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena - disturbance to endangered eagles	Given that the Government’s own link to information on threatened species details that “disturbance occurring even many hundreds of meters away can cause birds to temporarily leave eggs of chicks at risk, or even to desert their nest site for years. Disturbances involving visible people or helicopters can be particularly serious” how can assurances be given that the helicopters will not disturb the endangered Eagles and their current and future breeding patterns?	Written	SQ18-000917
255	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – flight details	A majority of the submissions outline their specific concerns with the flights including the flight path and deviations from it caused by weather, the effects of the flight noise on endangered animal species (particularly the Wedge Tail Eagles), noise disruptions to the current angling activities that occur in the area, as well as the actual number of flights, in total—How many total flights, including maintenance and supplying will occur over a year in and out of the park? How many helicopters will operate? One or two? The briefing states that a maximum of 30 trips a year will be permitted. That is 60 return flights with one helicopter operating. I understand from the proponent’s application that there will be two helicopters operating simultaneously with 3 guests and 1 guide on each. Can you please outline the	Written	SQ18-000918

				maximum number of allowed helicopter trips (one-way or return) per year from Derwent Bridge to Lake Malbena? If no formal restriction has been placed on helicopter flights, why not?		
256	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – accommodation	There is no mention in the briefing as to guides’ accommodation. The accommodation is three dual-occupancy standing huts for the six guests. Where will the guides be lodged?	Written	SQ18-000919
257	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – people on the island	How often will there be up to 12 customers on island? The briefing mentions this is a possibility, but does not stipulate the occurrence of this. This means that there can be up to 16 people on the island at any time. What measures are in place to ensure this is only during daylight hours? If not formal restrictions have been imposed, why not?	Written	SQ18-000920
258	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – flights per day	How many flights per day, or hours of usage per day will occur with helicopters within the standing camp footprint during construction? What effects will be incurred on the sheet rock area used for depositing and collection of goods? What risk of fire is there from the helicopters?	Written	SQ18-000921
259	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Helicopter flights in and out of Lake Malbena	At least a dozen submissions make note of the concerns they have in relation to the helicopter flights, particularly in relation to the mitigation of impact to Eagle’s nests and breeding through the FNA guidelines. Indeed in your own testimony on Nov 16, you seemed to be quite unclear about the actual number of flights, including those associated with maintenance and supply that would actually occur in and out of Lake Malbena. How can the DoEE have only considered the 30 flights in and out with clients as “the core number associated with flying in and out” (Mr Barker, Nov 16th) when it is not the core number and that it is in fact, significantly higher – likely to be 120 one-way flights just for transporting passengers and crew?	Written	SQ18-000922
260	1.5: ESD	Senator	Lake Malbena	You note in your testimony on November 16th at	Written	SQ18-000923

		Urquhart	waste removal	previous hearing, that the helicopter can pick up the waste “closer to the site with a sling”. When you say closer to the site, do you mean at the site? If not at the site, how will the waste, including human waste from the toilet pods (at the site) and grey water (at the site) be transported to the area “closer to the site” where the helicopter will pick up the waste with the sling?		
261	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Flights from Derwent Bridge to Halls Island	Construction is set to involve helicoptering in equipment and supplies to build the standing camp. How many one-way flights from Derwent Bridge to Halls Island will be needed to facilitate construction of the standing camp? The brief notes that toilet pods will be installed at the beginning of the construction phase- how will they be transported in? What formal restrictions have been placed on the flights for delivering construction materials?	Written	SQ18-000924
262	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Additional flights to Lake Malbena	Given that the proponent and the Department have stated that researchers, artists and members of the Indigenous Communities will be able and encouraged to visit the site, how many additional helicopter rides do you foresee occurring to facilitate these visits?	Written	SQ18-000925
263	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – proposal to build a jetty	Five submissions note that they are concerned about erosion, both to the surrounding areas of the site, as well as the site itself, specifically around the jetty. Does the proponent have plans to build a jetty at the site? If yes, why was this not considered in the proposal?	Written	SQ18-000926
264	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena natural sheetrock jetty	I note the discussion about the natural sheetrock “jetty” onsite. What assessment has been undertaken for the impact of such usage as a jetty will have on marine life, lake shore erosion and other protected EPBC Act values? What studies have been undertaken as to the effects on the natural occurring sheetrock being used as a jetty for boats?	Written	SQ18-000927
265	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena fencing around the	Given that there are no plans for fencing or barriers around the huts etc, what measures are being taken to	Written	SQ18-000928

			huts	ensure that visitors to the site and guides themselves, do not undertake in exploratory walks through the mainly brush/scrub surrounds?		
266	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena waste and water management	<p>Several submissions question the management of waste and water usage both during the construction phase of the project, and during regular operation. For example, five submissions note specific concerns with the removal of grey water, its storage and measures taken to ensure no leakage into streams and the lake itself, as well as the slinging of said waste out increasing the helicopter flights.</p> <p>a. How will waste be dealt with on-site during the construction phase? Will it be removed? How? Via helicopter?</p> <p>b. Where will water be sourced from for both the accommodation for customers, for guides and waste management?</p> <p>c. How will grey water be dealt with? Will any grey water make its way into the lake itself, or streams that feed the lake? What formal restrictions have been set to prevent grey water entering the lake?</p>	Written	SQ18-000929
267	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Fly fishing activities around Lake Malbena	<p>The brief notes that there will be “occasional fly fishing specific activities around Lake Malbena capped at six per annum”. Did the DoEE ask the proponent (a fly fishing company) why only six of the maximum thirty trips per year would include fly fishing? If yes, what was the response? If not, why not?</p> <p>a. What exactly is meant by “occasional fly fishing specific activities”? Does this extend to activities other than fly fishing itself? If yes, what?</p> <p>b. What formal restrictions will be placed on the proponent to ensure that only six trips per year include fly fishing? If none, why not? Would the six trips be actually 36 individuals participating in fishing for one day, for three days – how is this calculated?</p> <p>c. Will they be catch and release fishing activities?</p>	Written	SQ18-000930

				<p>d. Is the Department aware why anyone would travel to Lake Malbena and stay for three nights and not engage in fly fishing?</p> <p>e. Estimates from submissions are that only around 10 people per year visit Lake Malbena and that these people typically visit to enjoy the solitude and to engage in fly fishing.</p> <p>i. Is the Department aware of the impact on the shoreline, marine life and water health of Lake Malbena if the number of people participating in fly fishing activities increases from around 10 per year to 36 per year (6 trips with 6 guests on each trip)?</p>		
268	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Halls Island as a fire refuge	A number of submissions state that Halls Island is a fire refuge for endangered and rare flora species, with the island consistently escaping the wildfires common in the Central Plateau. Submissions also questioned the veracity of North Barker's claims that there was evidence of fire damage on some tree trunks and that there had been fires on the island in the past 30-50 years. Noting the submissions, did the Department seek further advice or clarification from North Barker about its assertions regarding fire damage? If so, what was it? If not, why not?	Written	SQ18-000931
269	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – advice from the Australian Heritage Council	The Australian Heritage Council stated that “However, several fundamental concerns are not addressed.” Why did the DoEE sign off on this proposal not being at least a controlled action after receiving this advice from the Australian Heritage Council? Does the DoEE often ignore the advice of the Australian Heritage Council?	Written	SQ18-000932
270	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – zoning prescriptions in the TWWHA Management Plan	The Australian Heritage Council stated “The buildings, helipad and tracks do not conform to the zoning prescriptions in the TWWHA Management Plan, which were designed to protect world and national heritage values.” Did DoEE take this advice into account? If so, what restrictions have been placed	Written	SQ18-000933

				on the buildings, helipad and tracks? If not, why not?		
271	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – resting the camp	The Australian Heritage Council stated that “In the document MNES p. 18, the proponent states that the standing camp will be ‘rested’ from June-September (i.e. over winter) - this is not a time when natural vegetation recovery can occur and is not supported by PWS and DPIPWE data on the time needed for recovery from trampling or camping. Further, this insufficient recovery time is contradicted by the next statement, that up to 5 commercial trips (a total of 20 days) may run over this ‘resting’ period.” Did DoEE take this advice into account? If so, what restrictions have been placed on access? If not, why not?	Written	SQ18-000934
272	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – cumulative impact	The Australian Heritage Council stated that “the cumulative impact on both world heritage and natural heritage values would be considerable, particularly noting the impact of helicopters on the outstanding natural aesthetic value of the wilderness area in which it is situated.” Did the DoEE take this advice into account? If so, what restrictions have been placed on the proponent to minimise cumulative impact on world heritage and natural heritage values? If not, why not?	Written	SQ18-000935
273	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Lake Malbena – biosecurity	The Australian Heritage Council stated that “The additional documentation acknowledges the need for strict biosecurity measures for both helicopters and clients - this is a potentially significant risk to the natural values in the area and should include training and assessment to ensure that appropriate standards are met by helicopter pilots, workers and clients.” Did the DoEE take this advice into account? If so, what biosecurity restrictions have been placed on the proponent to mitigate against this “significant risk”? If not, why not?	Written	SQ18-000936
274	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Referral decision briefs	How many other referral decision briefs have been prepared for the DoEE decision maker in 2018 by staff assigned to a different geographic section than	Written	SQ18-000937

				the project location? Please provide a list of projects.		
275	1.5: ESD	Senator Urquhart	Queensland North section typographical error	At the 16 November 2018 hearing, Mr Barker said the accidental mention of “Queensland Government” was a typographical error. The error was made by the Queensland North section. Does this point to the use of a template for these assessments?	Written	SQ18-000938
276	1.6: CCD	Senator Rice	Australian Conservation Foundation report - pollution standards	<p>Senator RICE: Okay. I will start with 1.6, even though it wasn't my priority. This question is basically responding to the media story this morning about research that has been done mapping Australia's pollution. An Australian Conservation Foundation report showed that the most polluted areas in Australia's capital cities include Botany Bay in Sydney, Altona in Melbourne, the Port of Brisbane and Parmelia near Perth. I want to start by asking whether you are aware of the research that the ACF have done. Do you have any responses to that research?</p> <p>Ms Johnson: Yes, I am aware of the report that has been published this morning. You have summarised it. To take an overall view, the Commonwealth works with the states on air quality matters, so we do collectively have what's called the ambient air quality national environmental collection measure. That lists a number of standards for things like carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and particulate matters. That is one of the key mechanisms by which the Commonwealth works with the states to collectively manage air pollution.</p> <p>More recently, the Commonwealth has been concentrating on introducing new standards for non-road spark ignition engines and equipment. These are things like lawnmowers. Those standards came in on 1 July this year. Those kinds of products can contribute up to 10 per cent of urban pollution in peak periods. So that's another aspect through which the Commonwealth has been looking to manage general</p>	Pages 18–19	SQ18-000894

				<p>urban air pollution.</p> <p>Senator RICE: For the pollution that has been identified in this report, what are the standards? What enforceable actions can the Commonwealth take if those standards are not being met?</p> <p>Ms Johnson: I would have to take on notice the particular standards for each of those different chemical compounds. As part of the National Clean Air Agreement work plan, there is work underway to review the standards. Victoria is leading the work on some of them. I think it's on nitrogen dioxide and a couple of others. So collectively with the states we are looking at the adequacy of those standards and we will be looking to review those and potentially vary them over the coming years.</p>		
277	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Storer	National Greenhouse Gas Inventory release details	<p>Senator STORER: Okay. But with those other quarterlies, in what years would you say that that's occurred?</p> <p>Mr Archer: We would need to take it on notice if you want specific details about the timing of the release of each quarterly. I'm not sure whether some of that information is actually in the quarterly. It's certainly available on the department's website.</p>	Page 14	SQ18-000895
278	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Storer	Emissions from Gorgon stored underground	<p>Senator STORER: What percentage of the emissions from Gorgon has been stored underground to date? As I understand it, this is a major part of it.</p> <p>Ms Evans: I don't think we have that information. Even if we were to take it on notice, I don't think we have it in the department. You would have to ask Chevron directly.</p>	Page 15	SQ18-000896
279	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Storer	Fugitive emissions from coal seam gas	<p>Mr Archer: Just to elaborate on Mr Sturgiss's answer a bit: the CER does publish facility level data for facilities that are covered by the safeguard mechanism as part of the Emissions Reduction Fund. Provided the facility is covered by the safeguard mechanism, then you will find, on the CER's website, the estimate of emissions that they've submitted under that scheme.</p>	Page 16	SQ18-000897

				<p>Senator STORER: And if it wasn't?</p> <p>Mr Archer: Then that's harder, because, generally speaking, the data that companies submit to the Clean Energy Regulator under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting mechanism is confidential and is actually protected by quite stringent rules around the privacy of that information.</p> <p>Senator STORER: Would I be able to ask you to provide me with that information, taking the information on notice?</p> <p>Mr Archer: We'll take that on notice and see what might be provided, certainly.</p> <p>Senator STORER: From the website or other sources within the department?</p> <p>Mr Archer: Certainly.</p>		
280	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Storer	Renewable energy resources versus mining	<p>Senator STORER: Okay. Has the department done any work in determining the economically demonstrated resource value of our renewable energy resources versus mining?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I'd have to take that on notice. I don't think we have done it in our division.</p> <p>Mr Archer: No, I don't think we've done a specific piece of work of that nature. Certainly there are elements of work that would be relevant to answering such a question—for example, the department working with the Chief Scientist and with the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science to look at the opportunities that renewable hydrogen might present for the economy. Clearly there is already a very strong transition towards renewables happening in the energy sector. That's fairly well understood as well.</p> <p>Senator STORER: Could you take that on notice and provide an answer per the department's understanding of the work?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I'm happy to do that, but, as Brad has already indicated, I think it is fairly well understood</p>	Page 17	SQ18-000898

				that Australia is incredibly well endowed with renewable resources.		
281	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Urquhart	The Australian Refrigeration Council	<p>Senator URQUHART: So is the Refrigeration Council a part of the department, or how—</p> <p>Ms Evans: No, it's not; it's an independent entity.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Established by whom?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I think Ms Dowling said it was established by the department. That's not quite right: it's an industry established entity.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Does it report to anybody? I guess it's made up of industry people?</p> <p>Ms Evans: Yes. I might need to take it on notice unless Ms Dowling knows the answer, but it's essentially a peak body of those. It doesn't have a reporting line to anything else.</p>	Page 21	SQ18-000899
282	2.1: CCD	Senator Rice	Emissions projections	<p>Senator RICE: What's the magnitude of that expected production?</p> <p>Mr Pratt: That does go to the exact content of our advice to ministers.</p> <p>Ms Evans: Some of this work is in the public domain. You can see the new Energy Security Board projections—I don't know if you're able to give those estimates, Kristin—but they're only a portion. I guess I'm just saying that, because we take a whole-of-economy picture when we do the projections, we can't say whether the overall picture is going to shift in the same way as just one subset.</p> <p>Senator RICE: No—just in terms of that subset, though.</p> <p>Ms Tilley: I don't have the Energy Security Board projections or figures in front of me. A couple of points: as Ms Evans said, they are public; they are produced as part of the work on the National Energy Guarantee. They would be something that the people who work on our whole-of-economy emissions projections take into account in their work, but they are a part of that work. We can provide on notice the</p>	Page 23	SQ18-000900

				<p>data that was provided through the ESB, but that focuses on the National Electricity Market, which is not the entire electricity sector in Australia, whereas, when we produce the figures for Australia's overall emissions sector by sector, we look at the whole electricity sector.</p> <p>Senator RICE: What I'm getting at is whether there is any reason why the minister would have a different view from what was in your December 2017 of how much our ambitions are expected to be at 2030.</p> <p>Ms Evans: In the electricity sector, even the work that was done by the Energy Security Board already reflected a much higher rate of renewables build and so on than we had actually forecast of the time we did the 2017 projections.</p> <p>Senator RICE: That's what I'm trying to get to: what the magnitude of that reduction compared with your 2017 projection is to be.</p> <p>Ms Evans: We might have to take that on notice, because I don't think we've done those calculations.</p>		
283	2.1: ICCEID	Senator Urquhart	Australian National Greenhouse Gas Accounts quarterly update	<p>Senator URQUHART: Was the timing of the release discussed with the department, or is that just something that the minister—</p> <p>Mr Pratt: It's a matter for the minister.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Okay. Did the update show an increase or a decrease in emissions?</p> <p>Ms Evans: As we've been discussing, the update shows that, at an aggregate level, the increase in emissions on a year-on-year basis was 1.3 per cent.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: The minister didn't mention that in her press release. Are you aware of that, Senator Fawcett? There was no mention of the 1.3 per cent increase in the minister's press release, was there?</p> <p>Senator Fawcett: I don't have the press release in front of me. I'd have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I've got it in front of me, and it doesn't have it in it. In 2016 they increased, didn't</p>	Page 38	SQ18-000907

				they? Ms Evans: That's the previous year. Senator URQUHART: Yes.		
284	2.1: CCD	Senator Rice	Current policies to reduce emissions	Ms Evans: There's additional abatement we expect but haven't yet factored into the projections coming out of the phase-out of hydrofluorocarbons under the Montreal Protocol. The only part of that we've included in the projections so far is the actual phase-out. There's still some work to be done on introducing better training and so on about how they're replacing the gases, which will also deliver some savings and so on. The combination of all of those things—then including technological change and the very significant emissions reductions that are happening in the electricity sector, driven partially by the Renewable Energy Target but also by general technology change and uptake—suggests that the government can have confidence that that policy set is able to deliver the target. Senator RICE: Can you perhaps take on notice: what are the elements of that policy set that give you confidence that they would result in that reduction—an increase in emissions until the mid-twenties through to that very substantial 26 to 28 per cent reduction below 2005 levels by 2030? The increase in all of those measures that you have outlined, how do they add up? Mr Pratt: We can take that on notice for you, Senator. I think our answer will be very much like what we've been saying across the course of the morning.	Page 36	SQ18-000901
285	2.1: CCD	Senator Rice	Offsets market price	Senator RICE: What sort of work could the Commonwealth be doing to assist the Northern Territory? Ms Tilley: We haven't actually commenced that discussion yet—so this is off the top of my head—but, for example, the Emissions Reduction Fund is	Pages 39–40	SQ18-000902

				<p>effectively an offsetting mechanism, and there are projects under the ERF that produce Australian carbon credit units, so those are offsets. You could look at whether or not that mechanism provided offsets that could be used if the Northern Territory government looks to do that through its eventual fracking. It's important to note as well that, while the NT government has indicated it intends to go ahead with fracking and to take up the recommendations of the scientific inquiry, I think the time we actually get to emissions occurring, and therefore the need for offsets, is quite some way away, and so a discussion right now about whether the Emissions Reduction Fund is a potential source of those offsets is a little bit hypothetical.</p> <p>Similarly, we have the carbon neutral program, which this department manages, which provides a standard process. We set a standard for different projects that might reduce their emissions and what the types of key requirements are in purchasing offsets that they might do through that program. So we provide standards for businesses to follow when they're looking to reduce their emissions and then purchase offsets to manage the remaining emissions that they can't offset.</p> <p>Senator RICE: What's the cost of those offsets in that standard process?</p> <p>Ms Tilley: We don't sell offsets through that program; we deliver a standard which companies can follow.</p> <p>Senator RICE: For the company to then go out to the market—</p> <p>Ms Tilley: That's right.</p> <p>Senator RICE: to buy the offsets that meet that standard.</p> <p>Ms Tilley: Yes. They are some examples—again, they are off the top of my head—of where we might</p>		
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				<p>be able to provide some information and assistance to support the Northern Territory.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Do you know what the market price is for those offsets currently?</p> <p>Ms Tilley: I don't. I could take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Can you take that on notice.</p>		
286	2.1: CCD	Senator Rice	Trend in the price of offsets	<p>Ms Tilley: This is what I was getting to before, about the time frame at which the reality of emissions, and therefore offsets, comes into play. In our projections work, which looks out to 2030, we haven't incorporated potential emissions or reductions through offsets in Northern Territory fracking, because there's just not the level of detail yet to understand at what point that will begin, what reservoirs might be initiated through that process and therefore what scale of potential emissions and offsets would be necessary. There's just not that level of detail.</p> <p>Senator RICE: But that was one of the findings of the inquiry—that one field in the Territory would produce emissions equivalent to five per cent of Australia's emissions. In the preliminary work that you're doing, have you done any estimates of what the cost of offsetting the emissions is likely to be? My calculation is that, if it's five per cent of 23 megatonnes, 23 million tonnes, at \$12 a tonne, it's quite a lot of money.</p> <p>Ms Tilley: I think it comes down to knowing at what point in time the emissions would occur and therefore what the price of eligible offsets might be at that point in time. We haven't done that work, but I think it would be fair to say that there are a range of variables that would factor into that. It's probably not relevant to say the current price or the historic average price of ACCUs over the last few years would necessarily be the appropriate metric to use.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Would you be expecting the cost of offsets to come down? What's the projected trend in</p>	Pages 40–41	SQ18-000903

				<p>the cost of offsets?</p> <p>Ms Tilley: I can't answer that question now, but it comes down to what the offset is and the scale of demand and supply at that point in time.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Can anybody from the department answer about what the trend has been in the price of offsets and what the projected trend in the price of offsets is?</p> <p>Ms Tilley: Under the ERF we have good data on that.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Please take on notice the projected trend over the period of time that we're looking at.</p>		
287	4.1: ED	Senator Rice	<p>Potential underwriting of coal-fired power stations</p>	<p>Senator RICE: It sounds more like a wing and a prayer rather than a canter! Why don't we leave that there. I'll move on to the recent media about the potential underwriting of coal-fired power stations and the government proposals—I'm thinking of Angus Taylor's proposals to potentially indemnify a company or power plant from future carbon risk or enter into a contract to directly invest in a coal generation project.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: Those are all matters for outcome 4.</p> <p>Ms Evans: Who were dealt with. We can take them on notice.</p> <p>Senator RICE: My question was basically whether you've got legal advice as to whether you would need empowering legislation to do either of those two things.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: The government hasn't taken any decision in these areas as yet. Essentially, Minister Taylor has made some comments. We are advising him around the underwriting proposals. There is still a lot of water to go under the bridge in that area.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Have you got legal advice as yet as to whether you would need empowering legislation to take measures like that?</p> <p>Mr Pratt: I'm unable to answer at this stage. We would need the Energy people—</p> <p>Senator RICE: Have you yet received legal advice?</p>	Pages 36–37	SQ18-000905

				<p>Mr Pratt: I don't know, Senator. I would have to ask my Energy people whether or not we've got legal advice on that. It's entirely possible, because we have, of course, in-house legal advice. We get a lot of advice from the Australian Government Solicitor in these areas. To the extent that this policy is firmed up and the government decides to head in that direction, inevitably we will have legal advice on it. Whether we've got it at the moment, I don't know.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Pratt: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Thank you.</p>		
288	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)	Senator Storer	Synthetic natural gas as a renewable resource	<p>Senator STORER: The department doesn't have any work done in the space of synthetic natural gas?</p> <p>Ms Evans: I don't think so. I'm just wondering whether, if it's synthetic gas specifically that you're talking about, that's one of the methane-reforming products where it's actually coming from a fossil fuel rather than a renewable. But, if you're thinking of something else—</p> <p>Senator STORER: I'm thinking of that and trying to understand it in this space.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: We'll take that on notice and check also with our Energy colleagues on whether they've got any insights there.</p> <p>Senator STORER: Someone has also put biofuels as a renewable resource that could be exported, so could you also—</p> <p>Ms Evans: Yes. Certainly ARENA looks at biofuels and biofuel production from time to time, and we certainly, from a general policy perspective, would keep a watching brief on what's happening with biofuels.</p> <p>Senator STORER: If you could include that in the response in terms of what's occurring and what the department has provided, that would be great.</p> <p>Mr Pratt: Certainly.</p>	Page 18	SQ18-000904

289	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)	Senator Urquhart	Renewable energy technologies	<p>Senator URQUHART: I have a few around 2.3 and then I'm done. Last estimates we weren't able to get a specific LCOE on each of the renewable energy technologies, so I'm hoping that we might be able to get some more specific costs this time on onshore wind, offshore wind, large-scale solar, small-scale solar, solar thermal and batteries.</p> <p>Ms Evans: We can take those on notice. Under the budget papers, program 2.3 is really about our administration and governance support of the Australian Renewable Energy Agency and the Clean Energy Finance Corporation. It's not so much a program about us doing additional work to what they do on all of these issues. Certainly, ARENA and CEFC are the ones who are best placed to give that kind of information on what's happening to—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: If you take them on notice, you can provide answers to them?</p> <p>Ms Evans: We can take them on notice and get some answers for you.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I will go through them. There are only five questions. If I go through them, you may be able to answer some of them. Are there technological developments being developed that will or can already address some of the perceived weaknesses of renewable energy—in particular, things like the lack of synchronicity, frequency control and intermittency?</p> <p>Ms Evans: There are definitely projects underway that start to address some of those issues. Some of the ARENA projects, for example—they have done some work with the Hornsdale Wind Farm looking at fast frequency response work. I know that there has been some investigation into—I'm not sure if it's directed by ARENA, although it would be quite likely—what synthetic inertia looks like. There is definitely work going ahead to look at addressing those kinds of</p>	Page 43	SQ18-000906
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				perceived weaknesses in the use of renewable energy. Senator URQUHART: Can you provide a bit more detail around that on notice? Ms Evans: Yes, we can.		
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