



Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee  
Budget Estimates 2019-20  
Monday, 8 April 2019  
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 7.57pm.

The committee called:

- Department and agencies of the Environment and Energy portfolio, including the Department of the Environment and Energy, Bureau of Meteorology, Snowy Hydro Limited, Clean Energy Finance Corporation, National Wind Farm Commissioner, Office of the Supervising Scientist and Climate Change Authority.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- recent extreme weather events in Australia;
- Bureau of Meteorology's funding levels and forecasting resources;
- investment in projects to encourage the adoption of electric vehicles;
- number of complaints received by the National Wind Farm Commissioner;
- interaction of the Department of the Environment and Energy (the department) with the Office of Women;
- progress in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals;
- decision-making framework for the Government's Communities Environment Program;
- CSIRO's review of Adani's groundwater plans;
- status of the approval process for Adani's Carmichael Coal Mine;
- feral animal control programs on Australian offshore islands;
- status of the proposed solar thermal power plant for Port Augusta in South Australia;
- programs to improve the energy efficiency of buildings;
- Snowy 2.0 project;
- release of the Interim Report on the Liquid Fuel Security Review;
- establishment of an Australian strategic fuel reserve; and
- Government announcement on the Climate Solutions Package.

The committee will next meet at **9.00 am** tomorrow, 9 April 2019 in Senate Committee Room 2S3, calling:

- Department and agencies of the Communications and the Arts portfolio, including the Department of Communications and the Arts, NBN Co Limited, Office of the eSafety Commissioner, Special Broadcasting Service Corporation, Australian Communications and Media Authority, Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Screen Australia.