

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Department of Industry, Science and Resources  
Inquiry into Treasury Laws Amendment (Electric Car Discount) Bill 2022 [Provisions]  
25 August 2022

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESOURCES

**TOPIC:** QoN 6 - The National Reconstruction Fund and EV uptake

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Written, Senator Bragg)

**QUESTION No.: 6**

With regard to Ms Mooney's evidence that the National Reconstruction Fund will support EV uptake:

- 1) What is the current timeline for the National Reconstruction Fund to be legislated?
- 2) Will the Government consult on the design of the National Reconstruction Fund legislation?
- 3) How many people will be on the National Reconstruction Fund board?
- 4) How will the National Reconstruction Fund board be governed?
- 5) How will the National Reconstruction Fund be constituted?
- 6) How will the National Reconstruction Fund manage its competing mandates between supporting infant and mature industries?
- 7) How will the National Reconstruction Fund manage its competing mandates between supporting clean energy industries and traditional industries (eg. the manufacturing of ferries and defence material)
- 8) How will the National Reconstruction Fund manage the different investment returns of research and development
- 9) Will it be a requirement for National Reconstruction Fund proponents to comply with the Government's Buy Australian plan?
- 10) Will it be a requirement for National Reconstruction Fund proponents to have 1 in 10 workers on the projects be Australian apprentices?
- 11) Will it be a requirement for National Reconstruction Fund proponents to comply with the Government's Skills Guarantee?
- 12) Will it be a requirement for National Reconstruction Fund proponents to comply with the Government's payment times procurement connected policy?
- 13) How many ASL in the National Reconstruction Fund Priorities Branch?
- 14) How many contractors are working in the National Reconstruction Fund Priorities Branch?
- 15) Where does supporting EV manufacturing and supply rank in the following priorities for the National Reconstruction Fund made in the lead up to the election?

Funding Safeguard Entities to Get to Net Zero Hydrogen "Green technology" Green steel and aluminium Wind turbines EV chargers Solar Panels Hydrogen electrolysers Livestock feed for methane reductions	Reputex modeling, Powering Australia  Husic, <a href="#">Address to the Sydney Institute</a> , 1 March 2022  Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the NFF National Conference</a> - 5 April 22  ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
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Trains	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Hansard</a>, 22 February</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Hansard</a>, 25 November 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Speech - AFR New Platform For Growth Conference</a> - 9 March 2022</p> <p>Husic, <a href="#">Address to the Sydney Institute</a>, 1 March 2022</p> <p>Albanese, Op-Ed: <a href="#">“Skills and industry will build a stronger future”</a> 17 December 2021</p> <p>Albanese, Op-Ed: <a href="#">“Vision, ambition and a solid plan to power the nation”</a> - 21 October 2021</p>
EV Manufacturing	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Doorstop</a>, 30 March 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Speech - National Conference</a>, 20 March 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Interview with Fran Kelly</a>, 31 March 2021</p>
EV batteries	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Speech - , Australian Minerals Week</a>, 2 June 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the NFF National Conference</a> - 5 April 22</p>
mRNA	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Doorstop</a>, 22 April 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Budget Reply speech</a>, 13 May 2021</p>
Universities R&D “Early Stage innovation” Commercialisation of science (4)	<p>Plibersek, <a href="#">Speech to Universities Australia Conference</a>, 3 June 2021</p> <p>Keogh, Op-Ed - <a href="#">Labor’s force posture announcement</a>, 21 September 2021</p> <p>Husic, <a href="#">Hansard - ARC Amendment Bill 2021, Second Reading</a>, 14 February 2022</p> <p>Marles, <a href="#">Speech to the Australian Technology Network Solutions</a>, 20 April 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Budget Reply speech</a>, 13 May 2021</p> <p>Albanese, Bowen, Husic, <a href="#">Transcript of doorstep</a>, 18 October 2021</p>
Defence Industry	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Op-Ed “Rely On Queensland To Rise To A Challenge”</a> - 17 January 2022</p>

	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Speech - , Australian Minerals Week</a>, 2 June 2021</p> <p>Albanese, Bowen, Husic - <a href="#">Transcript, Doorstop</a> - 31 March 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the NFF National Conference</a> - 5 April 22</p> <p>Keogh, <a href="#">Hansard - Private Members Business</a>, 24 May 2021</p> <p>O'Connor, Green, <a href="#">Media Release</a>, 28 June 2021</p> <p>Keogh, <a href="#">Op-Ed: We need clarity and support in Aussie defence industry</a>, 12 August 2021</p> <p>Keogh, Op-Ed - <a href="#">Labor's force posture announcement</a>, 21 September 2021</p>
Food Processing	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the Clean Energy and Jobs Summit</a>, 20 April 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Speech - , Australian Minerals Week</a>, 2 June 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the NFF National Conference</a> - 5 April 22</p>
Agriculture	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the Clean Energy and Jobs Summit</a>, 20 April 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the NFF National Conference</a> - 5 April 22</p>
CFMEU Grant	
Regional development	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the Queensland State Labor Conference</a> - 5 June 2021</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the NFF National Conference</a> - 5 April 22</p> <p>Watt, <a href="#">Speech to Developing Northern Australia Conference</a>, 16 August 2021</p>
Medical Research	Albanes and Marles, <a href="#">Doorstop</a> , 30 March 2021
RATS	Husic, <a href="#">Address to the Sydney Institute</a> , 1 March 2022
PPE	<p>Husic, <a href="#">Address to the Sydney Institute</a>, 1 March 2022</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Speech - , Australian Minerals Week</a>, 2 June 2021</p>
Ferries	<p>Albanese, <a href="#">Op-Ed "Rely On Queensland To Rise To A Challenge"</a> - 17 January 2022</p> <p>Albanese, Op-Ed: <a href="#">"Australians want Government in their lives to deal with COVID-19"</a> - 23 December 2021</p> <p>Albanese, Op-Ed: <a href="#">"Skills and industry will build a stronger future"</a> 17 December 2021</p> <p>Albanese, Op-Ed: <a href="#">"Vision, ambition and a solid plan to power the nation"</a> - 21 October 2021</p>
Shipbuilding	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>

	<p>Keogh, <a href="#">Address to the Defence Connect Budget Lunch</a>, 14 May 2021</p> <p>Keogh, <a href="#">Hansard - Private Members Business</a>, 24 May 2021</p> <p>O'Connor, Green, <a href="#">Media Release</a>, 28 June 2021</p> <p>Keogh, <a href="#">Op-Ed: We need clarity and support in Aussie defence industry</a>, 12 August 2021</p> <p>Keogh, Op-Ed - <a href="#">Labor's force posture announcement</a>, 21 September 2021</p>
Cars	<p>The Australian. <a href="#">Anthony Albanese's \$15 billion fund to restart the car industry</a>. 29 March 21.</p> <p>Daily Mail. <a href="#">Labor leader unveils \$15 billion plan to revive car manufacturing</a>. 30 March 2021</p> <p>ABC News. <a href="#">Federal Labor pledges \$15 billion manufacturing fund to safeguard Australian in lead-up to election</a>. 29 March 21.</p>
FinTech	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
Data Science	Albanes and Marles, <a href="#">Doorstop</a> , 30 March 2021
Engineering	<p>Keogh, <a href="#">Address to the Defence Connect Budget Lunch</a>, 14 May 2021</p> <p>ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a></p>
Software Development	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
AI	Albanes and Marles, <a href="#">Doorstop</a> , 30 March 2021
Robotics	<p>Albanes and Marles, <a href="#">Doorstop</a>, 30 March 2021</p> <p>ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a></p>
EdTech	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
Textiles	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
Forestry	<p>Collins, <a href="#">Media Release - Scott Morrison Cannot Be Trusted To Deliver on Forestry</a>, 21 February 2022</p> <p>Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the NFF National Conference</a> - 5 April 22</p>
Footwear manufacturing	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
Clothing manufacturing	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
Bauxite processing	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
Lithium processing	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
Medical devices	ALP.org, <a href="#">National Reconstruction Fund</a>
Pharmaceuticals	Albanese, <a href="#">Budget Reply speech</a> , 13 May 2021
Busses	Albanese, Op-Ed: <a href="#">"Skills and industry will build a stronger future"</a> 17 December 2021
Trams	Albanese, <a href="#">Speech - AFR New Platform For Growth Conference</a> - 9 March 2022

	Albanese, Op-Ed: <a href="#">“Skills and industry will build a stronger future”</a> 17 December 2021
Fisheries	Albanese, <a href="#">Address to the NFF National Conference</a> - 5 April 22
Total - 47 priorities	

16) How many sub-funds will operate in the National Reconstruction Fund?

17) What is the funding spread of the \$15 billion allocated for the Fund across these smaller funds?

**Question 1:** What is the current timeline for the National Reconstruction Fund to be legislated?

**ANSWER**

Timing for introduction of legislation is a matter for the government.

**Question 2:** Will the Government consult on the design of the National Reconstruction Fund legislation?

**ANSWER**

The Government will consult with industry and other stakeholders to develop and establish the National Reconstruction Fund through a range of established mechanisms.

**Question 3:** How many people will be on the National Reconstruction Fund board?

**Question 5:** How will the National Reconstruction Fund be constituted?

**Question 6:** How will the National Reconstruction Fund manage its competing mandates between supporting infant and mature industries?

**Question 7:** How will the National Reconstruction Fund manage its competing mandates between supporting clean energy industries and traditional industries (eg. the manufacturing of ferries and defence material)?

**Questions 8:** How will the National Reconstruction Fund manage the different investment returns of research and development?

**Questions 15:** Where does supporting EV manufacturing and supply rank in the following priorities for the National Reconstruction Fund made in the lead up to the election?

**ANSWER**

The Government is considering design of the National Reconstruction Fund.

**Question 4:** How will the National Reconstruction Fund board be governed?

**ANSWER**

As set out in its *A Future Made in Australia* election commitment, the National Reconstruction Fund, will be administered by an independent board with government setting its mandate to drive investment in key sectors focusing on value adding and capability development to leverage Australia’s natural and competitive strengths.

**Question 9:** Will it be a requirement for National Reconstruction Fund proponents to comply with the Government’s Buy Australian plan?

**Question 10:** Will it be a requirement for National Reconstruction Fund proponents to have 1 in 10 workers on the projects be Australian apprentices?

**Question 11:** Will it be a requirement for National Reconstruction Fund proponents to comply with the Government's Skills Guarantee?

**Question 12:** Will it be a requirement for National Reconstruction Fund proponents to comply with the Government's payment times procurement connected policy?

**ANSWER**

The Government is considering the design of National Reconstruction Fund and will work with relevant agencies to ensure compliance with broader Government policies as applicable.

**Question 13:** How many ASL in the National Reconstruction Fund Priorities Branch?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Industry, Science and Resources currently has approximately 15.8 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) working on the National Reconstruction Fund (as at 18 August 2022).

**Question 14:** How many contractors are working in the National Reconstruction Fund Priorities Branch?

**ANSWER**

Nil

**Question 16:** How many sub-funds will operate in the National Reconstruction Fund?

**Question 17:** What is the funding spread of the \$15 billion allocated for the Fund across these smaller funds?

**ANSWER**

The Government has announced the NRF will have dedicated support allocated for investments in:

- Powering Australia: up to \$3 billion
- Medical Manufacturing: \$1.5 billion
- Value adding in Resources: \$1 billion
- Critical Technologies: \$1 billion
- Advanced Manufacturing: \$1 billion
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Food and Fibre: \$500 million