Environment and Communications Legislation

Answers to questions on notice

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Portfolio

Inquiry: Future Made in Australia (Guarantee of Origin) Bill 2024 [Provisions] and

related bills

Question No: IQ24-000161

Hearing Date: 15 October 2024

Division/Agency: Net Zero Industries Division

Topic: Australian Aluminium Council

Hansard Page: 31

Question Date: 15 October 2024

Question Type: Spoken

Senator Grogan asked:

CHAIR: Great. Just one other thing: the Australian Aluminium Council appeared this morning, and they were talking about the standards that they meet internationally. Is that considered as well, or is that a different type of international standard that we're talking about?

Ms Thomson: The intention across the different products of the scheme would be the same. I think the Aluminium Council—I don't know that they're talking about a standard in a particular jurisdiction like the European Union.

CHAIR: I can't remember. Maybe I could ask you to just have a quick review of that piece of the transcript and just give us a bit of clarification. I'm not familiar with the scope of that standard that they were talking to. I know it currently enables them to trade internationally, but I'm not sure if it's completely different. And it might be that it's irrelevant.

Mr Gaddes: If it's helpful, we might take that on notice, take that one away, come back and give you a little assessment based on our review of that after this session so that we're not wasting your time.

CHAIR: That would be great. Thank you very much.

Answer:

Ms M Johnson's testimony referred to the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) as a standard that the Australian Aluminium Council would be looking to ensure Australia is aligned to.

From the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative website (<u>ASI Home | Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (aluminium-stewardship.org)</u>, the ASI is a sustainability standards system focused on the global aluminium value chain. The ASI state that they strive to deliver measurable, meaningful and continuous improvements in the environmental, social and governance performance of the aluminium sector – from production to use to recycling and re-use.

ASI's stated focus is an independent, third-party certification program to assure the performance of companies and sites and chain of custody of their products. The ASI Performance Standard Certification assures a range of sustainability issues, including greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

In the event an emissions accounting methodology determination was developed for aluminium, the department would consult with stakeholders, review the international context and consider appropriate alignment with relevant standards, including the ASI's standard.