

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 149
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)
Topic: Self Initiated Work
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 19 February 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. Does the department have a program for staff to engage in self-initiated work (projects, plans etc that are devised by staff without being directed by the minister's office or department management)?
2. Please list all ongoing projects. For each, please detail:
 - a) When did the project commence?
 - b) When is it expected to conclude?
 - c) What will the total cost of the project be?
 - d) Where did the money for the project come from?
 - e) Where is the project based?

Answer:

The Department

1. No.
2. Not applicable.

Bureau of Meteorology

1. No.
2. Not applicable.

Climate Change Authority

1. No.
2. Not applicable.

Clean Energy Finance Corporation

1. Yes. The CEFC is an independent statutory authority governed by its own legislation, the Clean Energy Finance Corporation Act 2012. The Responsible Ministers provide the CEFC with a general direction about the Corporation's operations [the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (Investment Mandate) Direction 2015 (No.2)] but cannot direct the Corporation as to the making of specific investments. It follows that all of the Corporation's investment activity is self-initiated.
2. As all activity is self-initiated work please refer to the CEFC website at <http://www.cleanenergyfinancecorp.com.au/media/releases-and-announcements.aspx>.

Clean Energy Regulator

- 1, 2. The staff of the Clean Energy Regulator work for the government of the day and are focused on work to reduce Australia's net greenhouse gas emission, including through the administration of market based mechanisms that incentivise reduction in emissions and the promotion of additional renewable electricity generation.

The Clean Energy Regulator purpose and objectives are detailed in the Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan 2015-19:
www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/About/Accountability-and-reporting/Corporate-plans/Corporate-Plan-2015-19.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

1. No.
2. Not applicable.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

1. No.
2. Not applicable.