

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

Question No: 151
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)
Topic: PBS - OUTCOME 1
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 26 May 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

Outcomes 2 and 5 from the previous configuration of the Department have now been rolled into Outcome 1. The table on page 25 of the Portfolio Budget Statement (PBS) for 2014-15 shows that funding for the new Outcome 1 is \$100m less in 2014-15 than estimated final for 2013-14. However, when the figure for 2014-15 is compared to figures for the 3 Outcomes in the 2013-14 PBS (refer tables on pages 36, 40, 47, 50, 69 and 73), the figure is actually \$156.5million less from 2013-14 to 2014-15. Can you please explain this discrepancy in detail?

Answer:

The movement in funding is primarily attributable to:

- The 2013-14 measures since Budget, reported on page 22 to 24 of the Department of the Environment Portfolio Additional Estimates for 2013-14 and include “Biodiversity Fund – reduction in funding and termination”; “Biodiversity Fund – reduced funding”; “Repeal of the Carbon Tax – abolishing land initiatives and unnecessary bureaucracies”; “Repeal of the Carbon Tax – abolishing other measures” and “Green Army establishment”;
- The measures announced since the 2013-14 MYEFO, reported on page 22 to 24 of the Department of the Environment Portfolio Budget Statements 2014-15 and include “Reef 2050 Plan – Establishment”; “National Landcare Programme – establishment”; “Whale and Dolphin Protection Plan – establishment”; “Grants to Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations – cessation”; “Tasmanian Forests Agreement Implementation Package – reduced funding”; “National Environmental Science Programme – establishment”; “Community Heritage and Icons Programme – establishment”; “Sustainable Regional Development – reduced funding” and “Orangutan Reintroduction Project – contribution”
- The transfer of funding as a result of Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO) dated 18 September 2013 as referenced in the Department of the Environment Portfolio Budget Statements 2014-15 on page 39, 48 and 52.