

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 247
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Program: Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)
Topic: Target temperature rise from global warming
Hansard Page:
Question Date: 16 June 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Waters asked:

What is GBRMPA's view on the target temperature rise from global warming which Australia should be aiming for?

Do you support a target of 1.2 degrees?

Answer:

The GBRMPA strongly supports the need to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions to provide the best chance for the Great Barrier Reef and the environmental, social and cultural benefits it provides for Australia and the global community.

The GBRMPA strongly supports Australia's 2030 target of a 26-28 percent emissions reduction target. The GBRMPA also supports the increased ambition contained in the Paris 2015 Agreement: *'holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognising that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.'*

The latest science indicates that the stronger position in the Paris Agreement to restrict the increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial is essential to ensuring the future of the Great Barrier Reef (i.e. as a functioning reef ecosystem), in combination with continued investment in reef management.