

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

Question No: 139
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 2
Programme: Climate Change and Renewable Energy
Topic: AGRICULTURAL COMPETIVENESS WHITE PAPER AND
AGRICULTURAL COMPETIVENESS GREEN PAPER
Hansard Page: 61
Question Date: 20 October 2014
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Siewert asked:

Senator SIEWERT: Today, I know, which is why am asking. My count is that climate change gets mentioned twice in the paper, and that is actually not as a discussion. One is a reference and the second is in a box talking about one of the programs. That is why am asking what level of input you have had in terms of climate change and what needs to be done for agriculture to address it.

Ms Hoitink: We have given climate change and adaptation views through the development of the department's response. How they are used by the relevant department is a different thing. But we have certainly given some climate change and adaptation views.

Senator SIEWERT: That is why I wanted to know what level of involvement you have had in that. You have provided advice on adaptation? I do not mean to put words in your mouth, but that is what I interpreted you to have just said.

Ms Hoitink: I did.

Senator SIEWERT: In what part of the process did you do that? Was it at the very beginning, from the consultation process or when the green paper first when out?

Ms Hoitink: I would like to get that for you. I do not have it with me at the moment.

Senator SIEWERT: If you could take that on notice, it would be appreciated

Answer:

The Department of the Environment has contributed to the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper process since October 2013. The Department provided input to and comments on drafts of the Issues Paper and the Green Paper, and participated in interdepartmental consultation forums.