

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

Question No: 215
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Programme: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: REPORTING UNCERTAINTY
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 28 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Back asked:

1. Can the CER please explain “uncertainty”?
2. Are the uncertainties reported to the CER correct? How does this compare to the actual data?
3. Does this include all the uncertainties caused by the variations in fuel material properties, the fuel quantities used, the generators heat rates at different outputs, etc.?

Answer:

1. Uncertainty can be described as the amount of variation in a numerical result consistent with observations. Statistical uncertainty as measured under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) legislation accounts for the level of uncertainty that may be attributed to sampling and statistical variation.
2. The *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008* sets out the rules about how uncertainty is assessed for the purposes of reporting under the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007*. Registered reporters under the NGER scheme have an obligation to be compliant with the requirements of the NGER legislation when preparing and submitting their reports.
3. Parameters included in the assessment of uncertainty in accordance with the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008* includes, but is not limited to activity data. In the case of fuel combustion, activity data refers to the quantity of fuel combusted.