

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

**Question No:** 221  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Programme:** Clean Energy Regulator  
**Topic:** VERIFICATION AND REPORTING OF EMISSIONS  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Back asked:**

Is it the CER's responsibility to verify and validate the information they are receiving, homogenising and using as a basis for reporting Australia's GHG emissions? If not: Whose responsibility is it?

**Answer:**

The Clean Energy Regulator is responsible for administering the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) scheme. Registered corporations and entities are responsible for ensuring their reports to the Clean Energy Regulator are accurate and comply with their obligations under the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007* (the NGER Act).

The Clean Energy Regulator plays a key role in verifying that data reported under the NGER Act is accurate and complete using a variety of methods, including mandatory and voluntary pre-submission audits as well as post-submission audits under the annual NGER Audit Programme. The Clean Energy Regulator also consolidates reported greenhouse and energy data and makes it available to a variety of stakeholders, including state, territory and Commonwealth agencies and departments to meet the objectives outlined below.

The objectives of the NGER scheme are to:

- underpin Australia's emissions reduction activities;
- inform government policy;
- inform the Australian public;
- help meet Australia's international reporting obligations;
- assist Commonwealth, state and territory government programmes and activities; and
- avoid the duplication of similar reporting requirements in the states and territories.