

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

Question No: 24
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Biodiversity Conservation Division
Topic: REEF TRUST
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Singh asked:

Can the Department confirm that the Minister will have responsibility for

- a. environmental approvals,
- b. setting the offset conditions for those approvals, and
- c. setting the amount of offset funds to be paid into the Trust?

Answer:

The Minister for the Environment and his delegates are responsible for making decisions on environmental approvals and setting offset conditions under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Section 134 (3A) of the EPBC Act requires the consent of the approval holder in relation to setting conditions specifying a financial contribution.