

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

Question No: 27
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1.1
Programme: Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)
Topic: Projects required to move funds into Reef Trust
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 21 October 2015
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart, asked:

1. How many projects are currently obliged to move money in to the reef trust? How will the Government determine the amount of money that needs to be moved into the special account? Is it the case that the projects have been approved, yet the total dollars to be moved into the reef trust are yet to be determined or disclosed?

Answer:

There are no existing *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* approvals which oblige approval holders to provide offset funding to the Reef Trust. The Department can and is negotiating with existing approval holders to deliver their offsets through the Reef Trust where a condition requires offset payments and the delivery of activities which align with the outcomes of the Reef Trust. The amount of any offset payment is set out in the relevant condition of approval.