

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

Question No: 141
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Environment Standards Division (ESD)
Topic: Assessment Processes and Resources
Hansard Page: n/a
Question Date: 01 November 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

Do you have confidence in State processes? How are they audited?

Answer:

Before a State or Territory assessment process is included in an assessment bilateral agreement, the Department first undertakes a rigorous analysis to ensure the process is consistent with the standards set out in the EPBC Act and the EPBC regulations.

More generally, the Department works closely with all State and Territory governments to ensure environmental assessment processes are aligned to the greatest extent possible between the Commonwealth and the relevant jurisdiction.