

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

Question No: 181
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Policy and Communications Division
Topic: Portfolio wide - Freedom of Information requests
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 7 March 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig Joe asked:

How long does it take to requests for disclosed FOI files to be processed? What was the average turn around from request to sending of files in the last 3 months?

Answer:

Department of the Environment

The average 2014 turnaround time is 1 ½ business days.

Bureau of Meteorology

The Bureau has received no such requests.

Clean Energy Regulator

The Clean Energy Regulator received no requests for copies of disclosed FOI files between 24 November 2013 and 24 February 2014 (being the three month period to the 2014 Additional Estimates hearing).

Climate Change Authority

Requests for disclosed FOI files are processed as soon as possible. In the past these requests have been processed within two business days. The Climate Change Authority has had no formal requests for disclosed FOI files in the last three months.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Processing time is dependent on the scope of request. The average turn around from request to sending of files was 1-2 business days.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority generally processes requests for copies of documents released under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* within 24 hours of the receipt of the request. The average turn around in the last three months has been 24 hours.

National Water Commission

The Commission has not received a FOI request since the revised FOI requirements have come into force.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

The Sydney Harbour Federation Trust processes requests within the FOI timeframes. No files have been sent in the last three months.