

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

Question No: 70
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 7
Programme: Renewables Projections & Governance Division
Topic: Review of the Renewable Energy Target
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 04 March 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

On the review of the Renewable Energy Target, what work has been done to date by the Department on the progress and success of the RET?
Reports from the AEMC and state regulators show that the impact of the RET is very small, at around 3-4% for households and falling. Can you confirm that this is the case?
Has the Department provided any advice to the Government on the impact on investment in renewables of removing or watering down the RET? If so, what was this advice?
Have you looked into the potential cumulative impact of potential changes to the RET, cuts to ARENA and the abolition of the CEFC on investment in renewables in Australia?
What will be the role of this Department in the RET review process?
Prior to - and following - the election last September, the Government announced its support for the RET. We've recently heard about how bad the RET is for driving up electricity prices by around 3-4% (note infrastructure accounts for 50%). Is Government policy still to support the RET?

Answer:

These questions were answered on 24 February 2014 (refer to the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Hansard pages 40 to 42).