

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

**Question No:** 90  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Programme:** Clean Energy Regulator  
**Topic:** Wind farms - ownership  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 04 March 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Back asked:**

I refer to Question 103, Additional Estimates 2013, where the CER is asked how many of the wind farms in Australia are owned by the States in which they operate and it was stated that the CER was unable to provide information as to how many of these wind farms are owned by the states in which they operate.

1. Does the CER not think it important to investigate how many of the wind farms are owned by the states in which they operate, in light of the fact that the noise limits are set by relevant states and that the states are responsible for handling noise complaints?
2. Since accreditation, how many Large-scale Generation certificates have been issued to Pacific Hydro owned wind farms to date?
3. Does the CER keep records of the regular changing of ownership of the wind farms?

**Answer:**

1. The Clean Energy Regulator provides information about the owner/operator of wind farms on the public register of accredited power stations ([www.rec-registry.gov.au](http://www.rec-registry.gov.au)). The Clean Energy Regulator does not collect information about the shareholders of the various wind farms that are accredited under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000*. The Clean Energy Regulator is unable to provide information about how many of these wind farms are owned by the states in which they operate.
2. Pacific Hydro, or its subsidiary companies, currently have six accredited and operational power stations. This information is publicly available on Renewable Energy Certificate Registry. Since accreditation Pacific Hydro wind farms have registered a total of 4,695,277 Large-scale Generation Certificates (as at 13 March 2014).
3. Yes, the Clean Energy Regulator is made aware of the change of ownership by accredited renewable energy power stations when such a change occurs.