

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Additional Estimates Hearing  
26 February 2009

---

**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS)

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard 26 February 2009, E94)

**QUESTION No.:** AI-46

**Senator ABETZ**—How many of the 1,000 businesses that are assumed to be affected by the CPRS are industries that would fall within the purview of this department?

**Mr Paterson**—I will take that on notice.

**ANSWER:**

The 1,000 figure was an initial estimate for policy purposes. Due to the diverse areas initially covered by the CPRS, the Department is unable to make a reliable estimate of the number of businesses covered by the Innovation, Industry, Science and Research portfolio. The portfolio has responsibility for manufacturing companies but there are also a number of affected business sectors in other portfolios.

The Department of Climate Change, which has portfolio responsibility for the CPRS, has advised that:

- More accurate estimates of the number of liable entities will be possible following registrations under the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007*.
- This estimate is informed by analysis undertaken for the Government in development of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System, as well as for the former Task Group on Emissions Trading and Department of Climate Change analysis.
- The Scheme will include waste and synthetic greenhouse gases, and all excise and customs duty remitters through the fuel tax system, which were not included in data considered by the Task Group.
- This figure counts only those firms with obligations under the Scheme.
- Forestry entities may choose to opt-in to the scheme and are not included in this number.