Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

16 February 2012

Question No: AET 276

Topic: Climate change (ATO)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushby asked:

Are there climate change sections or areas that work on climate change in your department/agency? If yes, list details.

Answer:

No, the ATO does not have climate change sections or areas.

The ATO has discussions with the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCC&EE) as appropriate about the tax implications for new climate change proposals and is represented on interdepartmental committees.

As part of the overall clean energy initiatives that DCC&EE is responsible for, the following areas in the ATO are responsible for implementing the related consequential changes to the tax system:

- Micro Enterprises and Individuals personal tax changes involving increases to the tax-free threshold and rate changes
- Indirect Tax changes to fuel tax credits and excise
- Small and Medium Enterprises refundable tax offset for conservation tillage.

There are also certain income tax and GST consequences arising which the ATO's Large Business and International and Indirect Tax areas will have a responsibility to administer.