

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Senate Estimates
20 October 2010

Question: SR15
Topic: Renewable Energy Futures Fund
Proof Hansard Page: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

Question

Has the Department developed guidelines for the expenditure of the Renewable Energy Future Fund? If so, please provide copies of such guidelines.

Answer

Several government agencies will deliver the Renewable Energy Future Fund (the Fund) through a number of different measures. Each agency is responsible for developing expenditure guidelines for those measures they have responsibility for. The Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (the Department) is responsible for the Renewable Energy Venture Capital Fund, the Emerging Renewables program, the Connecting Renewables program, and US-Australia Solar Research Collaboration; the latter measure was announced by the Prime Minister on 7 November 2010. The Department has not yet developed guidelines for these measures.

Question

Does the Department have any targets for outcomes from the Renewable Energy Future Fund? If so, please detail those targets?

Answer

No, the Department does not have any targets for outcomes for the Renewable Energy Future Fund. The Department will develop targets and outcomes (where appropriate) for the measures that it will deliver as part of the Fund in the near future.

Question

With regard to the programs listed in the answer to Question on Notice 64 in the Climate Change and Energy Efficiency portfolio through the May 2010 Budget Estimates, did the Department do any assessment of any of these programs or similar programs prior to the 2010 election? If so, what assessments were undertaken into each program and what was the outcome of such assessments?

Answer

The Department did not assess any of the Fund programs listed in the answer to Question on Notice 64 for which it has responsibility for delivering or any similar programs prior to the 2010 election. The Department will develop appropriate expenditure guidelines for each of the Fund programs for which it is responsible.