

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates
19 October 2011

Question: SR1

Topic: Appointment of Environmental Officer to the NOPSEMA Advisory Board

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Senator Siewert asked:

Senator SIEWERT: I suspect some of my questions may pre-empt your becoming NOPSEMA, so just tell me. When do you become NOPSEMA?

Ms Cutler: On 1 January 2012.

Senator SIEWERT: Presumably by that time the person with environmental expertise will be on the board.

Ms Cutler: Yes. The minister is going to appoint someone with environmental skills, knowledge and experience to the NOPSEMA advisory board, as it will be called at that time.

Senator SIEWERT: What is the time frame for that by January?

Ms Cutler: That would be a question for the minister.

Senator SIEWERT: Minister?

Senator Sherry: I will have to take it on notice because I am not the minister. I am representing my colleague Mr Ferguson.

Ms Cutler: I think the process has commenced.

Answer:

The process to appoint a new member with environmental credentials to the Advisory Board of the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) has commenced.

The candidate will be selected by the Standing Council of Energy and Resources and appointed by the Minister for Resources and Energy, the Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP.

The appointment will commence on 1 January 2012.