

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

19 October 2011

Question: SR5

Topic: Clean Energy Package and Impact on the Coal Industry

Proof Hansard Page: 77

Senator Bushby asked:

Senator BUSHBY: I will ask the same question about the passage of the clean energy package of bills and its impact on the coal industry. Have you conducted any assessment or have you formed any view of what impact will occur there?

Mr Hoffman: I think the minister is on the record as saying it is possible that some highly emitting mines may close. I would refer to my earlier comments about the continued capital investment in the sector since and the continued high premium merger and acquisition takeover activity in the sector. The volumes of exports continue to increase and the sector continues to do well. The government has made a considerable investment of assistance with the coal sector jobs package. I can bring an officer to talk in further detail about that package to support both regions and jobs in respect of areas affected.

Senator BUSHBY: What are those projections based on? You quoted the minister, but what evidence did you have on which to base those projections?

Mr Hoffman: If I could, I would take the detail of that analysis of emissions by mine on notice.

Senator BUSHBY: Was that analysis done within your department, or was it done elsewhere?

Mr Hoffman: I will take that on notice and get back to you on that.

Answer:

The analysis of emissions for coal mines on a mine by mine basis was done by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency using data reported by industry under the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007*.