

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 12-13 February 2007

Question: PM 78

Outcome 1

Topic: Carbon Emissions Trading Task Group

Direct on Notice:

Senator Evans asked: When was the Department first made aware of the proposal to establish an Emissions Trading Task Group?

Answer: The Department became aware of the proposal on the 13 November 2006.

Senator Evans asked: Who selected the members of the Task Group? The Prime Minister? His Office? Did the Department provide a list of names?

Answer: The members of the Task Group were selected by the Prime Minister.

Senator Evans asked: When were the members of the Task Group first approached to join the Group?

Answer: Approaches were made by the Prime Minister's Office.

Senator Evans asked: How many times has the Task Group met? When?

Answer: The Task Group has met on four occasions, on 19 December 2006, on 2 and 23 February, and 21 March 2007.

Senator Evans asked: In terms of the Secretariat to the Task Group, representatives from which business organisations are on the Secretariat? What is the role of these business representatives?

Answer: The Business Council of Australia and the Australian Greenhouse Industry Network. Their role is to assist the Secretariat in its function of supporting the Task Group.