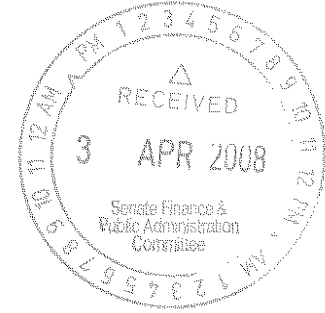


Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE
Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio
Department of Climate Change
Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2008



Written question reference: CC9

Outcome/Output: Response to climate change

Topic: Australia's influence over global emissions

Hansard Page: F&PA 30

Question:

Senator MACDONALD – Can I ask the department to use its resources to see if there is any material around that may indicate what a 1.4 per cent reduction in global emissions would do to the changing of the world's climate?

Answer:

There is no material indicating precisely what a 1.4% reduction in global emissions would do to the changing of the world's climate.

Global climate is already changing as a result of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. Global anthropogenic CO₂ emissions are accelerating, with the annual growth rate increasing from 1.1% per year for 1990-1999 to greater than 3% per year for 2000-2004.

The growth in global emissions means that only an effective international approach can deal with climate change. Australia has an important role to play in influencing global action through international engagement and showing leadership by achieving emissions reductions at least cost and adapting to climate change impacts that are unavoidable.