

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



Written question reference: CC1

Outcome/Output: Response to climate change if relevant

Topic: Professor Garnaut

Hansard Page: F&PA 101

Question: (JOHNSTON)

Do we have a written invitation to Professor Garnaut to report to the Commonwealth?

Answer:

In June 2007, Professor Garnaut was jointly commissioned by State and Territory First Ministers and Federal Labor in Opposition to lead the independent Garnaut Climate Change Review.

The Review will be an important contribution to the Australian Government's thinking on a range of climate change policy issues and the Australian Government has committed \$2.3 million in the 2008-09 Budget to support the work of the Review.

During the election campaign, Federal Labor clearly indicated its intent to support the Garnaut Review. The Government has publicly stated that it welcomes Professor Garnaut's independent report on numerous occasions since coming to office (Prime Minister the Hon Kevin Rudd MP *Transcript of press conference following first cabinet meeting* Brisbane, 25 January 2008; Senator the Hon Penny Wong *Government welcomes Garnaut interim report* media release, 21 February 2008; Senator the Hon Penny Wong *Government welcomes Garnaut paper on emissions trading* media release, 20 March 2008).

Professor Garnaut has not received any further invitation to report to the Prime Minister, the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, in writing. The Commonwealth is clearly committed to the Garnaut Review process and welcomes the independent report from Professor Garnaut.

The Review has consistently indicated that it would deliver its final report to the Australian and State and Territory governments on 30 September 2008.