

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

Question: PM38

Topic: Climate Change - Staffing

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Senator RONALDSON-How many staff in PM&C work on issues relating to climate change and the proposed ETS?

Dr Grimes-I might confer with one of my colleagues to see if we can give you an estimate of the number of staff. It is a relatively small number of staff. Part of our difficulty, as you would appreciate, is that we may have staff that work part time on greenhouse and related matters and work can extend across different parts of the department, including the international part of the department, but we might be able to give you a rough estimate. If you are happy for us to take on notice, we will take it on notice.

Answer:

The climate change section within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's (PM&C) Industry, Infrastructure and Environment Division has four full time officers working on broad climate change issues, including on aspects relating to the proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme.

In addition, other officers from the International, Economic and Strategy and Delivery Divisions of PM&C contribute to the development of advice on climate change issues, but the number of officers engaged in this activity will depend on the particular point in time and workloads vary.