Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2008-09 (October 2008)

Index to Questions on Notice (QON)

Department of Climate Change

Note: the FPA Committee resolved that agencies provide answers to Questions on Notice by Friday, 5 December 2008.

QON	Department	Senator	Hansard	Question	Comments/answer
No.	/ agency		Reference		received
CC1	DCC	JOHNSTON	F&PA 105–106	Senator JOHNSTON —Good. Is the committee going to see a full breakdown of those costs, or are they going to be disclosed in budget papers or in annual reports?	Interim answer received 6/01/09.
				Dr Parkinson —They would be disclosed, but perhaps at a higher level of aggregation than you may be interested in. Contracts in that would be indicated separately, but, if you have an interest, we can pull that information together for you at the end of the process.	Final response provided as answer to CC20 at
				Senator JOHNSTON —I would be very much obliged if you would, breaking up all of the costs incurred by the Commonwealth in terms of wages, salaries, travel, accommodation, rentals et cetera.	Supplementary Estimates 2008-09.
				Dr Parkinson—We will do what we can.	
				Senator JOHNSTON—I would be very much obliged.	
				Senator Wong—We can do that as at the date on which that is provided, Senator.	
				Senator JOHNSTON—Very good.	
CC2	DCC	JOHNSTON	F&PA 107	Senator JOHNSTON —One personal staff member, and save for Bali, which we have explored, the other trips engaged how many departmental officers?	Answer received 6/01/09.
				Senator Wong —I do not have that information. The department would have that information. But in general you would have Ms Adams, who is the Ambassador for Climate Change, and/or Mr Bamsey, who is the deputy secretary and the Prime	

				Minister's Special Envoy on Climate Change, plus—	
				Senator JOHNSTON —So we have a special envoy and an ambassador?	
				Dr Parkinson—Yes.	
				Senator Wong —The intention behind the appointment of the special envoy, if I can indicate that, was because the number of international meetings where ministerial level representation is sought is simply beyond my ability to attend, and it was felt important to have both Ms Adams, who is our chief negotiator, and also Mr Bamsey, who could operate as, I suppose, a ministerial delegate.	
				Senator JOHNSTON —Ms Adams, how many departmental officials attended with the minister in addition to her personal staff at each of those eight events subsequent to Bali—because we have been over Bali?	
				Ms Adams—Yes, I could certainly provide you with that information.	
CC3	DCC	XENOPHON	F&PA 108	Senator XENOPHON —If I could briefly interrupt, would it be possible to get details of the extent of that consultation—the sorts of groups and people that were approached?	On 5/11/08 this question was transferred to
				Dr Parkinson —I am sure the Treasury will be happy to give it to you. We would happily give it to you if I had it at my fingertips, but I do not have it.	Treasury for an answer.
				Senator XENOPHON—If you would take it on notice, I would be happy with that.	
				Senator Wong —We would probably refer that question to the Treasury—we can do that.	
				Senator XENOPHON—I would be happy with that, Minister.	
				Dr Parkinson —Just to be clear, that is consultation around the modelling, not consultation around the CPRS.	
				Senator XENOPHON—Yes, I understand.	
				Senator Wong—We can answer questions about that.	
CC4	DCC	XENOPHON	F&PA 110	Senator XENOPHON —Could I just clarify what the minister and you have put in relation to this—and I hope this is a reasonable question. Isn't the compensation approach proposed by the government based on an intensity target? Am I mistaken in that? Isn't there a link between the two—isn't the compensation approach based on an intensity target?	See also discussion between Dr Parkinson and Senator Xenophon on F&PA 108–109.
				Dr Parkinson —That is a very good question. In one sense there is an element of that. It is not an intensity target but basically you are setting the amount of support that would be provided by unit of output and then you are allowing output to move, and then that is the determinant of the total number of permits that individual firms will	Answer received 6/01/09.

				get. The Canadian system is a bit different. Frankly, I would have to get some background information and refresh myself, but we can— Senator XENOPHON—If I can put that on notice, I would appreciate it. Senator Wong—Yes, Senator; I think that would be useful. We might provide you with an answer to a question on notice which outlines to the best of our knowledge the Canadian scheme and—I do not want to say 'our assessment of it'—perhaps an explanation of it.	
CC5	DCC	XENOPHON	F&PA 116	Mr Comley—We have used those two consultative forums throughout the year to talk about CPRS design. In the case of the Treasury briefing, we brought the two round tables together. We ran a workshop session with both the NGOs and the business groups, and then we brought it back to a plenary session for discussion of any issues that were raised. The paper was also on the website. I think Treasury has made it clear that they are happy to take comments or receive feedback from anyone else in the public. Senator XENOPHON—But it is not a public process as such, is it? Mr Comley—Is it public? In total, there are about 45 industry associations and NGOs that are party to it, and any papers that we put to those forums are on the website. Senator XENOPHON—On notice, can I get details of the participants? Mr Comley—Yes. We are happy to provide you with a list of the participants in that round table.	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC6	DCC	FIFIELD	F&PA 116	Senator FIFIELD—On the same issue, I am not sure whether it was Dr Parkinson or Mr Comley who undertook to take on notice and provide a list of the attendees of those business round table meetings. How many business round table meetings have there been? Senator Wong—In that process? Senator FIFIELD—Yes. Mr Comley—Off the top of my head, I think we have had six through the year. It would be either five or six. I can take on notice the precise number. Senator FIFIELD—If the dates for those could be provided as well. Also, did ministers attend any of those round tables or were they purely between the departments?	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC7	DCC	FIFIELD	F&PA 117	Senator FIFIELD —Perhaps I could short-circuit the discussion. At the meeting which took place with Minister Ferguson, were notes taken by the department and, if so, can those notes be made available?	See also further discussion on F&PA 118.

				Dr Parkinson—I will have to check whether there were notes taken by the staff and also check the content of them. I would be very reluctant to pass on the content of any individual meeting. Senator Wong—I will be clear: people engage with government on the understanding that they are there to put their views. If they choose to make them public, and some people do, that is their choice. I would feel most uncomfortable with my officials, without their having canvassed this issue with all the stakeholders in the room, being required to disclose what any particular individual said. This is why I offered, if you wanted it, to give you a flavour of the different views which have been put to us by different sectors. Most of these views are public. They are canvassed in the green paper and some of them have been canvassed publicly. Senator FIFIELD—If you could take that on notice, given there are notes from those meetings. Obviously, if there were notes taken at the meeting with Minister Ferguson, I would understand that you may well want to delete the names of individuals or particular organisations before you release them. Dr Parkinson—Senator, could I just go back and reiterate what I said a moment ago. I do not know whether there were notes taken; I would have to check that. But I would be very reluctant— Senator FIFIELD—I appreciate that. If you could take that on notice—	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC8	DCC	MILNE	F&PA 119	Senator MILNE—I am glad you raised that, because I was going to ask you about that. My understanding is that the €68 billion claimed is actually the cost of the energy overall over that period and not the feed-in tariff, and therefore there is an error in your calculations.	Answer received 6/01/09.
				Ms Thompson—We would have to check that. That is not the advice I have. Senator MILNE—It is certainly the advice I have, and it would fit with this latest report, in which the International Energy Agency is encouraging the adoption of a feed-in tariff rather than quota systems using tradeable credits as being the most effective and cost-effective and the best-case driver of the deployment of these technologies. So I would ask that you have a look at that again, because I noted that that was the Department of Climate Change response to the feed-in tariff, and it is a pretty critical issue to go back and have a look at those costs. Senator Wong—We can take that on notice.	
CC9	DCC	ABTEZ	F&PA	Senator ABETZ—All right, can you take on notice what that includes. Time is	Answer received
			123–124	short. How much remains to be spent on this campaign? Senator Wong—We can provide that.	6/01/09.

				Dr Parkinson —In terms of the set of advertisements that are being run today?	
				Senator ABETZ—How long are they destined to go for? Was there a plan?	
				Dr Parkinson —Yes. We can pick that up.	
				Senator ABETZ—How much more remains to be spent?	
				Senator CAMERON —It is not as much as Work Choices; nobody could spend that much!	
				Senator ABETZ —I am sure that you did not take a sanctimonious point of order before, Senator Cameron, about interruptions.	
				Dr Parkinson —We have agreement for a budget of \$13.95 million. That is not only for the development, production and placement of the advertisements between July and November but also for public relations and community education activities.	
				Senator ABETZ—Can you tell what it is made up of—	
				Dr Parkinson—We can do all of that.	
				Senator ABETZ —and give me a breakdown on radio, newspapers, TV and PR et cetera? That would be very helpful.	
CC10	DCC	ABETZ	F&PA 124	Senator ABETZ —It has been suggested by a number of people that there has been no increase in global average temperature since 1998. Does the department agree with that or not?	Answer received 6/01/09.
				Senator ABETZ —what the answer to that is. On the best science available to the department, is that right or is that wrong	
				Dr Parkinson —If you are interested, there are a range of questions put to us in the context of the JSCOT hearings.	
				Senator ABETZ—I am not a member of that, I am sorry.	
				Dr Parkinson —We are happy to provide you with answers to that. We basically took on a range of issues such as: 'Satellites that orbit the Earth twice a day have not detected any increases in global temperatures since 2001. What do you say to that?' We answered that when analysed correctly, the satellite data indicates the continuation of a warming global trend. There are a range of issues around there. We were asked about why balloons have not found a hot spot in the troposphere consistent with anthropogenic global warming. 'What do we say to that?' We have gone—	
				Senator ABETZ —If I may interrupt it seems that you have answered this for another parliamentary committee—	
				Dr Parkinson —But I am happy to provide you with copies of it.	

				Senator ABETZ—Yes. That would be very helpful, thanks.	
CC11	DCC	MILNE	F&PA 128	Senator MILNE —Can you take this on notice, please. I am interested to know the land clearing estimates in hectares for each state that are being used for the purposes of the national inventory report from 2000 to the present. If I could have the state-by-state analysis in hectares of land clearance that has been used for the inventory, that would be most appreciated.	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC12a- CC12c	DCC	BOSWELL	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC13a- CC13b	DCC	RONALDSON	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC14a- CC14i	DCC	FIFIELD	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC15a- CC15e	DCC	FIFIELD	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC16a- CC16g	DCC	FIFIELD	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC17	DCC	SIEWERT	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC18a- CC18b	DCC	BIRMINGHAM	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC19a- CC19c	DCC	BIRMINGHAM	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC20a- CC20c	DCC	BIRMINGHAM	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC21	DCC	BIRMINGHAN	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.
CC22	DCC	WILLIAMS	Written	See attachment below	Answer received 6/01/09.

Written Questions on Notice

CC12a-DCC (BOSWELL)

What if any steps have been taken to estimate the costs of the government's response to climate change including the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme for every department, agency and program within this portfolio?

CC12b-DCC (BOSWELL)

What are the costs and estimated costs identified (reported separately)?

CC12c-DCC (BOSWELL)

Have any costs been included in forward estimates and if so where?

CC13a-DCC (RONALDSON)

Can you provide me with a detailed breakdown of estimated job loses per House of Representatives electorate over the first five years after the adoption of the Rudd Labor Government's ETS scheme?

CC13b-DCC (RONALDSON)

Can you provide me with a detailed breakdown of compliance costs per House of Representatives electorate over the first five years after the adoption of the Rudd Labor Government's ETS scheme?

CC14a-DCC (FIFIELD)

What is the total cost of the Government's "Think climate. Think change" advertising campaign for the carbon pollution reduction scheme?

CC14b-DCC (FIFIELD)

What is the purpose of this campaign?

CC14c-DCC (FIFIELD)

What were the different elements of the campaign? For example, was there:

- o TV advertising?
- o Radio advertising?
- o Print advertising?
- o Brochures, leaflets?
- o Direct mail?
- o Wrist bands?
- o Any other items?

CC14d-DCC (FIFIELD)

Please provide the quantum of each component of the campaign (i.e. how many TV and radio spots were booked and of what length, how many print advertising spots were booked and in which publications etc)

CC14e-DCC (FIFIELD)

Please provide a full cost breakdown of each component of the campaign

CC14f-DCC (FIFIELD)

Who did the Government contract to run the campaign?

CC14g-DCC (FIFIELD)

Was the contract put to tender?

CC14h-DCC (FIFIELD)

How many tenderers were there?

CC14i-DCC (FIFIELD)

Who made the decision to award the contract?

CC15a-DCC (FIFIELD)

Can you confirm that the Garnaut Report was funded by taxpayers?

CC15b-DCC (FIFIELD)

I understand that Professor Garnaut's final report is available for sale through Cambridge University Press for \$70 per copy, is that correct?

Who is receiving the revenue from the sales?

CC15c-DCC (FIFIELD)

Is Professor Garnaut receiving any financial benefit from the sale of the Report?

CC15d-DCC (FIFIELD)

Is Cambridge University Press receiving any financial benefit from the sale of the Report?

CC15e-DCC (FIFIELD)

Does the Department consider that private individuals or organisations receiving financial benefit from work paid for by taxpayers is appropriate?

CC16a to CC16g–DCC (FIFIELD)

I refer to the Garnaut Final Report, Chapter 22, Pages 547-548:

"Edwards and Wilson (2008) have modelled the potential for kangaroos to replace sheep and cattle for meat production in Australia's rangelands, where kangaroos are already harvested. They conclude that by 2020 beef cattle and sheep numbers in the rangelands could be reduced by 7 million and 36 million respectively, and that this would create the opportunity for an increase in kangaroo numbers from 34 million today to 240 million by 2020. They estimate that meat production from 175 million kangaroos would be sufficient to replace the forgone lamb and beef meat production, and that meat production from kangaroos would become more profitable than cattle and sheep when emissions permit prices exceed \$40 per tonne CO2-e. The net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions would be about 16 Mt CO2-e per year."

CC16a-DCC (FIFIELD)

Does the Minister have a view on whether we should replace our lamb and beef meat production with kangaroo meat?

CC16b-DCC (FIFIELD)

Is it Government policy to replace lamb and beef meat production with kangaroo meat production?

CC16c-DCC (FIFIELD)

Under its proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme, will the Government require meat producers to hold emissions permits?

CC16d-DCC (FIFIELD)

Will the Government issue free permits to meat producers?

CC16e-DCC (FIFIELD)

How much extra will a kilo of beef cost with a carbon price on beef production of \$20 a tonne and with a carbon price of \$40 a tonne?

CC16f-DCC (FIFIELD)

How much extra will a plate of beef stroganoff from the Parliament House canteen cost with a carbon price on beef production of \$20 a tonne and with a carbon price of \$40 a tonne?

CC16g-DCC (FIFIELD)

Has the Government consulted with Meat & Livestock Australia on its proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme?

CC17-DCC (SIEWERT)

How much funding has been provided by the department or any of its agencies to the following organisations for the financial years 2005/6, 2006/7 and 2007/8?

Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation Pty Ltd;

Cape York Land Council;

Cape York Institute for Policy and Leadership;

Indigenous Enterprise Partnerships;

Cape York Partnerships Pty Ltd;

Cape York Corporation Pty Ltd;

Cape York Financial Management Services Pty Ltd;

Cape York Indigenous Environment Foundation;

Cape York Aboriginal Charitable Trust

CC18a-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

What was the cost of printing the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Green Paper on 9 Lives 80 paper? Were alternative quotes sought and, if so, how much were they?

CC18b-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

How many copies of the Green Paper were printed and how many distributed? How many remain available and where are the remainder stored?

CC19a-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

How was Cambridge University Press selected as the publisher for the Garnaut Climate Change Review Final Report? Was it an open tender?

CC19b-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

What was paid to Cambridge University Press to publish the Final Report, and what was the nature of any other commercial arrangements entered into?

CC19c-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

How many copies of the Final Report were printed and how many distributed? How many remain available and where are the remainder stored? How many copies have been sold and how many have been given away?

CC20a-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

Why did the Government fail to deliver on its repeated promises to tackle the issue of solar feed-in tariffs through the COAG meeting in October?

CC20b-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

When does it intend to resume debate on this measure?

CC20c-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

Does the Government support a gross feed-in tariff model or a net feed-in tariff model?

CC21-DCC (BIRMINGHAM)

When will the National Strategy for Energy Efficiency, due to be finalised by June 2009, actually start resulting in action?

CC22-DCC (WILLIAMS)

What research is being undertaken specifically in relation to climate change/global warming? (provide a list of all projects)