



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

### SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

### ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by: Ms Nicole Lawder MLA

Addressed to: Minister for the Environment, Parks and Land Management

Redirection: Minister for Housing and Suburban Development

Reference: Environment

Hearing Date: 31/07/2024

In relation to: Environment Protection and Biodiversity Ginninderry

Question Lodgement Date: 01/08/2024

Date Answer Due: 08/08/2024

(1) Recommendation 55 from the 23-24 budget called for the ACT Government to immediately update the Legislative Assembly on the findings of the Commonwealth Government's review into the compliance of the Ginninderry Joint Venture with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth). The government's response was to agree in principle, with an update promised after receiving and considering the recommendations, expected by November 2023. Have there been any discussions with the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water regarding some of the issues with the Ginninderry development and the conservation corridor?

(2) Would you be able to confirm when your last meeting or correspondence was with the Federal department regarding the Ginninderry development?

(3) Has the Commonwealth Government informed you whether they have or are close to finalising the review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act?

**Yvette Berry MLA:** The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

(1) Yes, discussions have been ongoing with the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).

(2) The Ginninderry Joint Venture's last meeting with DCCEEW on 29 July 2024. A site tour was conducted and the Ginninderry Joint Venture responded to requests for information from DCCEEW.

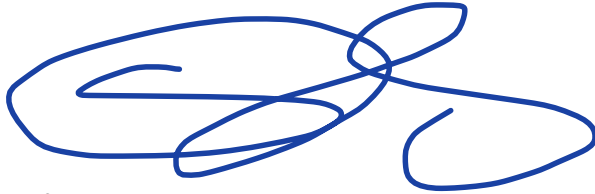
(3) The Australian Government has not committed to a timeline for finalising its proposed environmental reforms including the review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.

At the Senate inquiry July public hearing into the stage 2 Nature Positive Bills currently before Parliament, officials from DCCEEW did not provide a fixed timeline for introducing the substantive stage 3 EPBC Act reforms to Parliament. Officials confirmed that it was their intention to do so 'as

soon as possible', following further consultation with jurisdictions, ENGOs and industry stakeholders. DCCEEW committed to consulting on a full exposure draft of the stage 3 EPBC Act reform legislation before introducing it to Parliament.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:

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Date:

20/08/24

By the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, Yvette Berry MLA