



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QON No. 26

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
TARA CHEYNE MLA (CHAIR), CANDICE BURCH MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JAMES MILLIGAN MLA

Inquiry into referred 2018–19 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by ELIZABETH LEE MLA:

In relation to: Carbon Neutral Government Framework

- (1) During annual reports hearings, the minister said 'that was not the target' in relation to net zero emissions from government operations by 2020 during annual reports hearings. But page 60 of the EPSDD annual report says that the Carbon Neutral Government Framework 'commits the Government to achieving net zero emissions in its operations by 2020'
- What is the actual objective and timeframe?
 - What is the ACT Government's position on a carbon neutral government?
 - When will the ACT Government be carbon neutral?

SHANE RATTENBURY MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

- The ACT Government has set targets to reduce emissions from Government operations by 33% by 2025 (from 2020 levels) and reach zero emissions by 2040.
- The previous Carbon Neutral Government Framework committed the Government to achieving carbon neutrality in its own operations by 2020. This meant that any residual Government emissions from 2020 onwards would be balanced by purchasing certified carbon offsets. Under the new Zero Emissions Government Framework, Government will not purchase carbon offsets to meet its targets but will instead invest in reducing emissions.
- Under the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-25 the Government committed to meeting its emission reduction targets without purchasing carbon offsets. The target is to achieve zero emissions from Government operations by 2040.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services

Signature:

Date:

8/12/19

By the Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, Shane Rattenbury MLA