



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY
MARISA PATERSON MLA (CHAIR), ANDREW BRADDOCK MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), LEANNE CASTLEY MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
4 March 2021

Asked by MS CASTLEY:

In relation to: Review of the *Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2010*

THE CHAIR: Ms Castley, do you have a substantive question?

MS CASTLEY: Yes, thank you. So with the review of climate change and greenhouse gas reduction, the act from 2010, it was passed on 26 October. Section 26 requires that the act be reviewed every 10 years. Now, section 26 states that:

The minister must review the operation of this act and present a report of the review to the Assembly as soon as practicable after the end of this act's fifth and tenth years of operation, and as soon as practicable after each subsequent 10 years.

Now, the directorate did an in-house five-year review with no public or Assembly input. So my question is when will you review the operation of this act?

Mr Rattenbury: In accordance with time in the act.

MS CASTLEY: And will it be done in-house?

Mr Rattenbury: I have not made a decision on that yet.

MS CASTLEY: And do we know who will be leading that? Will it be consultants or—

Mr Rattenbury: No. Not at this point.

MS CASTLEY: When will we know?

Mr Rattenbury: I do not have an exact timeline on that. I am happy to update the committee, though, when we do.

MS CASTLEY: Yes, please, that would be great, because it will be October before we know it. With the five-year review, did you—

Mr Rattenbury: You are right, it does go by us, yes.

MS CASTLEY: That is all right. Did you present the report to the Assembly following the five year review?



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
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QTON No. 20

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Mr Rattenbury: I was not the minister at the time, so I would have to check the history of that. I just do not know. I am not sure if anyone in the room does know the answer to that.

MS CASTLEY: Can we take that one on notice?

Mr Rattenbury: Yes, I am happy to.

MS CASTLEY: Thank you.

Mr Rattenbury: It is not something that is just in my memory banks, but we will check.

MS CASTLEY: And will you be presenting the report to the Assembly for the tenth year?

Mr Rattenbury: I would expect so. I think that is—the legislation requires that, so yes, I would expect to.

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

The *Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas reduction Act 2010* ('the Act') states that the review must begin 'as soon as practicable after the end of this act's tenth years of operation'. The tenth year of operation was 2020, so it is practicable now to begin the review process following the recent election and a range of new commitments and Ministerial arrangements in relation to greenhouse gas reductions.

Given the importance of 2020 as the first emissions reduction target year, Government is carefully considering a number of options for the delivery of the review, with an announcement on the review process to be made in due course.

The former Minister for the Environment (Mr Simon Corbell) tabled the first review of the Act in the Legislative Assembly after the fifth year of operation, on 5 May 2016.

As the Minister for Energy, Water and Emissions Reductions, I am required by the Act to present a report of the review to the Legislative Assembly after the tenth year of operation. This will occur once the review has been completed and considered by the Government.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature:

Date:

16/3/21

By the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Shane Rattenbury MLA