

Session SBI45 (2016)

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[Question by](#) New Zealand at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) GHG projections

The review report states that Australia was undertaking modelling of emissions for 2030 and that these would be available in 2016. Has this modelling been completed, and if so, what are Australia's emissions and removals projections for 2030?

[Answer by](#) Australia
Not answered

[Question by](#) United States of America at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Emission trends before and after 2013

CTF table 6 shows that from 2005 to 2013, emissions with LULUCF dropped by 10%, while they are expected to increase by 8% from 2013 to 2020. Can you explain what caused this reversal from downward trend to upward trend?

[Answer by](#) Australia
Not answered

[Question by](#) United States of America at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Projections relative to inventory data

CTF table 1.1 lists total GHG emissions with LULUCF in 2000 as 554,791 ktCO₂e, while CTF table 6 lists the same value 560,789, about 6,000 kt higher. The guidelines state that projections should be presented relative to actual inventory data for the preceding years. Using adjusted values here makes it more difficult to

understand emissions trends. Can Australia provide clarify differences?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by United States of America at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Reduction from BAU

Australia's Second Biennial Report states that Australia's target represents a substantial reduction from business-as-usual emissions. Can you please provide information on estimated business-as-usual emissions and the degree to which projected emissions have been reduced from business-as-usual?

For example, in response to a question from Brazil in the previous multilateral assessment of Australia's first Biennial Report, Australia stated that under a business-as-usual scenario without Australia's Emissions Reduction Fund, Australia's emissions were forecast to be 17 percent above 2000 levels in 2020. In addition, CTF table 6 of Australia's Second Biennial Report indicates total GHG emissions without LULUCF are expected to increase 15 percent from 2000 to 2020, and 5.7 percent with LULUCF. This comparison indicates that emissions in 2020 may be 2 to 12 percent below BAU.

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by United States of America at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Decision to apply carry-over units

In response to multilateral assessment questions from the MA of BR1, Australia stated that it had not yet decided whether or not to use carry-over credits from KP1. BR2 now indicates Australia's plan to apply carry-

over units towards its 2020 target. Can you explain the reasons that this decision was made?

How did this decision change the cumulative abatement task? For example, Figure 5.1 of BR2 shows a reduction in the cumulative abatement task between the 2014-15 projections and the 2015-16 update. Is this due to the decision regarding carry-over units?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by Japan at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Questions about preparation process for projections

We consider it is excellent that Australia prepares and updates its projections almost every year. What kind of cycle or process is implemented to prepare projections? How does the timing of preparation of projections relate to the timing of preparation of GHG inventories and BR? What kinds of tasks does Technical Working Group regarding projection do specifically?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: CTF Table 3

Regarding mitigation actions referred to in “CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects”, are there any current estimates of mitigation impacts since the respective years of implementation?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Mitigation impacts

In “CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects”, 26 mitigation actions were listed, while in BR1 only 6 mitigation actions were reported. Congratulations for this progress. However, only one mitigation impact was estimated. Please, inform the reasons for not reporting mitigation impacts for the other 25 mitigation actions. What are the difficulties to do so?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Waste Industry Protocol

In page 42, there is the following footnote: “Further information on the voluntary Waste Industry Protocol is available at: www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/publications/voluntary-waste-industry-protocol”.

Thanking Australia for providing the referred web link for further information, it would be useful if more details about the initiative could be provided.

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: CERs

Table 2(f) reports the following: “Under the voluntary Waste Industry Protocol the Australian Government has been gifted 21,768,290 first commitment period CERs by landfill operators. Australia will use units received though the voluntary Waste Industry Protocol to contribute to its unconditional 2020 target”.

Please, further elaborate on how Australia will use the units received to meet the target. Please, refer to CERs cancelation, National Registry, ITL, etc.

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Projections for 2020

Australia states that “emissions are rising from 560 Mt CO₂-e in 2014–15 to 593 Mt CO₂-e in 2019–20, which is 63 Mt CO₂-e lower than the 2014–15 projections’ estimate for 2019–20 of 656 Mt CO₂-e (figure 5.4)”. However, according to Table 6 (a) (Information on updated greenhouse gas projections Under a ‘With Measures’ Scenario) contained in BR1, the GHG emissions projected for 2020 were of 613 Mt CO₂e.

Why is Australia referring to 656 Mt CO₂e as previous estimate for 2019-2020 if the estimate contained in BR1 for 2020 is 613 Mt CO₂e?

Answer by Australia
Not answered



[Question by Switzerland](#) at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Development of transport emissions

According to the Technical Review Report, the most significant GHG emission increases under Australia's WEM scenario from 1990 to 2020 will occur in the energy sector, followed by the transport sector, where an increase of 67.7 per cent is expected.

In its 2nd BR, Australia states that "The Australian Government aims to reduce emissions from motor vehicles. Australia has had road vehicle emission standards for new vehicles in place since the early 1970s and these have been progressively tightened over the past 40 years."

1) Could Australia inform about the evolution of the fuel efficiency of its road vehicle fleet (in terms of CO₂ emissions per kilometre for new vehicles) over time? Has Australia experiences it could share concerning efficiency targets for lowering fuel consumption or GHG emissions from road traffic?

2) As regards emissions from freight transports: Is Australia also considering development of non-fossil fuel based freight transport options, e.g. through electrification of railways and their operation with renewable electricity?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered



[Question by Switzerland](#) at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Business-as-usual vs climate policy driven emission levels

In its 2nd BR, Australia states that "The Australian Government is committed to an unconditional Quantified Economy-wide Emission Reduction Target (QEERT) of five per cent on 2000 levels by 2020. Australia's target is equivalent to a 13 per cent

reduction on 2005 levels and represents a substantial reduction from business-as-usual emissions on a range of indicators."

1) Could Australia elaborate on the indicators it refers to in its BR as well as on the methods employed for the ex-ante assessment of the difference between business-as-usual emission levels versus climate policy driven emission levels?

2) According to information provided in its 2nd BR, the expected mitigation impact has been estimated for a very limited number of measures only. Could Australia elaborate on how progress in the implementation of these measures will be assessed in order to monitor and evaluate their contribution to the achievement of the 2020 target?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by United States of America at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Contribution of LULUCF

Changes in emissions from LULUCF have had a very important impact on Australia's emissions trajectory. Do you have any estimates for the total effect of policies affecting the land use change and forestry sector or business-as-usual projections for what emissions from this sector would have been without policies and measures?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by United States of America at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Longer term mitigation policy

How is Australia taking into account longer-term mitigation needs when formulating mitigation policy? Is Australia implementing mitigation policy measures that are important to prepare for implementation of

longer-range targets (e.g., 2030), but which do not achieve major mitigation gains in the short-term? This might include, for example, work to prepare for the electrification of the transport sector.

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

[Question by United States of America](#) at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) CER project types

You state that, “Under the voluntary Waste Industry Protocol the Australian Government has been gifted 21,768,290 first commitment period CERs by landfill operators. Australia will use units received through the voluntary Waste Industry Protocol to contribute to its unconditional 2020 target.” Do we understand correctly that these CERs are based on the same project types as those endorsed by Australia’s Emissions Reduction Fund and/or the National Carbon Offset standard, or are these CERs based on additional project types? If based on additional project types, what types of projects formed the basis for these CERs purchased by landfill operators?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

[Question by New Zealand](#) at Tuesday, 30 August 2016

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Policies and measures in projections

Which policies and measures are included in Australia’s “with measures” projections scenario?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

[Question by](#) European Union at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Emissions Base Year

Australia's emissions are on a rising trend since 1990, but have recently started to flatten. Overall emissions have fallen since 2005-06, due largely to a substantial fall in LULUCF emissions. LULUCF emissions have varied strongly from year to year and have been subject to large retroactive revisions in the recent past. Given the importance of LULUCF in national emissions, it is possible that the base year (2000) emissions for Australia's quantified economy-wide emission reduction target will continue to be revised as new methodologies are adopted and implemented. Could Australia explain its approach for ensuring the consistency of its mitigation commitments in the light of such revisions? What lessons could be drawn from this in terms for the preparation and implementation of future efforts, such as the NDC?

[Answer by](#) Australia
Not answered

[Question by](#) European Union at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Emissions Reduction Fund - safeguard mechanism (2)

In section 4.3.1.1 of the BR, Australia states that the safeguard mechanism covers facilities that exceed the emissions threshold of 100,000 tonnes CO₂-e per year. What is the projected contribution of ERF abatement purchased from projects under this threshold?

[Answer by](#) Australia
Not answered

[Question by](#) European Union at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Energy efficiency

Section 4.3.1.3.2 of Australia's biennial report refers to a number of energy sector methods to purchase emissions reductions from projects that improve energy performance. Energy efficiency improvements are a typical part of ongoing business operations. How does the ERF separate these purchased emissions reductions from business-as-usual reductions and guard against the selection of lowest auction bids that are more likely to be non-additional "anyway" projects?

[Answer by](#) Australia
Not answered

[Question by](#) European Union at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Renewable energy target

In section 4.3.2 of the BR, Australia provided updated details on the Renewable Energy Target (RET), informing that the RET has been amended to exempt all emissions-intensive trade-exposed industries from all RET costs. Are the effects of these exemptions included in Australia's projected cumulative abatement? Could Australia provide a quantified estimate of the total emissions that might result from these exemptions?

[Answer by](#) Australia
Not answered

[Question by](#) European Union at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Emissions Reduction Fund - safeguard mechanism (1)

In section 4.3 of the BR, Australia announced the implementation of a “safeguard mechanism” for the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) which came into effect on 1 July 2016. Could Australia explain whether the ERF abatement including from forest protection and pre-existing landfill gas projects purchased prior to this date has also been safeguarded?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by European Union at Monday, 29 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: LULUCF contribution

In sections 4.3.1.3.3 and 5.3.8 of its BR2, Australia updates some details on "Avoided Clearing of Native Regrowth", stating that projected increases in land clearing will be offset by low rates of native forest harvesting. Noting that tree-clearing controls were instrumental in Australia meeting its Kyoto commitment, have the emissions projections been adjusted to account for the updates?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by China at Monday, 29 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Effects of mitigation actions

GHG emission removed by LULUCF sector is equal to about 25% of the total emission of Australia and is the

largest contributor to the decrease in GHG emission. However, little information on the estimated effects of PaMs in LULUCF sector has been reported in BR2. Could Australia identify the key PaMs in its LULUCF sector and provide more information on their implementation progress and estimated effects?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

[Question by China](#) at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Projections

It is observed that during 2005 to 2013, the GHG emission of Australia has been decreased. In the projection reported in BR2, the GHG emission will start to increase after 2013 even in the “with measure” scenario. Could Australia elaborate on the drivers for that projected increase?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

[Question by China](#) at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) per capita GDP

It is reported that in 2013 per capita GHG emission is of 23.3 tCO₂-eq per person in Australia. Although it is the lowest level since 1990, it is significantly higher than the world average and is the highest among OECD countries. Could Australia illustrate the reasons for such high per capita emission, such as economic structure, behavior and lifestyle, incentives for low-carbon development, etc.?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

Question by China at Monday, 29 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: vehicle emission standard

Could Australia provide more information on how the Ministerial Forum on Vehicle Emissions Standard and Vehicle Testing will promote emission reduction in transportation sector? And does Australia have any plans on promoting public transportation system?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by China at Monday, 29 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: ETS

Could Australia provide information or estimation on the impacts on GHG emission by the repeal of ETS? Has Australia considered other approaches to set up a domestic carbon price?

Answer by Australia
Not answered

Question by China at Monday, 29 August 2016

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: conditional targets

Australia did not report on its conditional target for 2020 in its BR2 and clarified during the technical review

that it has determined to strengthen long-term climate action building on unconditional 2020 target according to the TRR. However, a 2030 target cannot close pre-2020 gap. Meanwhile, according COP decision 1/CP.19, developed country Parties are urged to revisit their QEWERT and periodically evaluate the continuing application of any conditions associated with its QEWERT with a view to adjusting, resolving or removing such conditions. In this regard, we would like to know that whether Australia has evaluated the continuing application of the conditions associated with their 2020 targets. If no, when Australia plans to do so? If yes, what are the conclusions?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

[Question by China](#) at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) LULUCF emission/removal

What are the uncertainties for emission estimation for LULUCF and its sub-sectors? How will the relatively high uncertainty level impact the estimation of total emission?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

[Question by China](#) at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category:](#) All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) recalculation

In its 2015 national inventory, Australia has reported a recalculation result with a significant increase of 8.1% and 9.6% for year 2000 and 2005, but at the meantime the results for other years have not been significantly different. Could Australia illustrate the reasons for those changes in emission levels for base years of its QEWERT and INDC?

[Answer by Australia](#)
Not answered

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Session closes at 28-10-2016
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