



Estimates and Financial Operations Committee

2016-17 Annual Report hearings – Additional Question

Water Corporation

Hon Diane Evers MLC asked:

1. *With regard to page 49 and greenhouse gas emissions and following on from the answers provided at the annual report hearings, and acknowledging that federal reporting standards require that average greenhouse gas emissions across the scheme: has it been considered to develop an additional KPI using actual figures that would encourage greater use of renewable energy to power Water Corp assets such as desal plants?*

Answer:

The focus of the Water Corporation is on the use of “behind the meter” (BTM) renewables. This means installing renewables at our own sites to reduce our grid consumption, where appropriate.

Purchased renewables (not located behind ‘our’ meter) do not count for lowering emissions in standard reporting mechanisms – they are reported by the energy utility, not the Water Corporation. However, the Water Corporations use of BTM renewables can be reported in the Annual report through standard reporting mechanisms.

BTM renewables includes mainly biogas (from WWTP processes) and photovoltaic solar, but could in future also be wind power or “in-line hydro” (electricity generated from flows within our pipe networks).

The Water Corporation has considered a number of alternative reporting methods, but there is no consistent alternative reporting methodology across Water Utilities, or the broader industry.

The Water Corporation is currently developing targets for self-generation of renewable energy.