

Question on Notice

No. 787

Asked on Wednesday, 16 June 2021

MR S O'CONNOR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Environmental Protection (Waste ERA Framework) Amendment Regulation 2018—

Will the Minister provide a breakdown of annual fees collected for the following waste-related ERAs, broken down by year for the last five years, including what has been collected in 2021 to date for (a) ERA 53 - Organic material processing, (b) ERA 54 - Mechanical waste processing, (c) ERA 55 - Other waste reprocessing or treatment, (d) ERA 57 - Regulated waste transport, (e) ERA 60 - Waste disposal, (f) ERA 61 - Thermal waste reprocessing and treatment and (g) ERA 62 - Resource recovery and transfer facility operation?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

In 2018, the Department of Environment and Science conducted a comprehensive review of all waste-related Environmentally Relevant Activities (ERAs) and the regulated waste categorisation framework administered under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. This resulted in the introduction of new risk-based ERAs and regulated waste regulatory framework that commenced in full in 2019.

As a result of the review, the annual fees for some ERAs increased and others decreased.

In 2017, the department launched a new permit and licensing database. To respond to this question to include a full five years of information, significant resources and time would be required to research and interrogate the decommissioned system records.

From 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021, I am advised that the following revenue has been collected on a financial year basis:

Activity	2017-18 (\$ Million)	2018-19 (\$ Million)	2019-20 (\$ Million)	2020-21 (\$ Million)
ERA 53	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.20
ERA 54	0.01	0.01	0.23	0.32
ERA 55	0.39	0.43	0.52	0.68
ERA 57	1.68	1.72	1.45	1.21
ERA 60	1.03	1.08	1.18	1.38
ERA 61	0.10	0.14	0.17	0.09
ERA 62	0.39	0.48	0.63	0.98
Total	3.78	4.05	4.37	4.86

Notes:

- There may be a small variance for some invoices that have been raised where the department has not yet physically receipted monies.
- As a result of the waste reform implementation, the name and numbering of some ERAs changed.
- Rounding has been applied.