

Burgess, Rachel

From: Sturgiss, Rob
Sent: Thursday, 6 September 2018 10:06 AM
To: s22
Subject: FW: quarterly update [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: Attachment A - March 2018 Quarterly Update.pdf

s47C

From: Sturgiss, Rob
Sent: Thursday, 9 August 2018 11:42 AM
To: s22
Cc: s22
Subject: quarterly update [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

s22

Gday

Not sure how busy you are this week.....but attached is the quarterly update. Its also in the PDMS.

s47C

s47C

All the best

Rob

From: Sturgiss, Rob
Sent: Thursday, 9 August 2018 10:25 AM
To: Sturgiss, Rob <Rob.Sturgiss@environment.gov.au>
Subject: FW: MS18-000988 - Release of the March 2018 Quarterly Update of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

From: s22
Sent: Thursday, 9 August 2018 10:19 AM
To: Sturgiss, Rob <Rob.Sturgiss@environment.gov.au>
Subject: MS18-000988 - Release of the March 2018 Quarterly Update of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

To: Minister for the Environment and Energy (For Information)

cc: Assistant Minister for the Environment

RELEASE OF THE MARCH 2018 QUARTERLY UPDATE OF THE NATIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

Recommendation:

1. That you note:
 - a. the *March 2018 Quarterly Update of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory* (Attachment A) is available for release from 17 August; and
 - b. the Department will liaise with your Office on the timing of the release of the March 2018 Quarterly Update.

Noted / Please discuss

Minister:

Date:

Comments:

Clearing Officer: Sent 8/08/2018	Rob Sturgiss	Assistant Secretary, NISIR / ICCEID	Ph: 6159 7388 Mob: s22
Contact Officer:	s22	Director A/g, NIT ICCEI Division	Ph: s22 Mob: s22

Key Points:

1. The *Quarterly Update* provides national emission estimates for all sectors, including the land sector, up to March 2018. It also includes emissions estimates for the National Electricity Market (NEM) for the most recent quarter (June quarter 2018).
2. Emissions in the March 2018 quarter are estimated to have increased 0.3 per cent in seasonally adjusted and weather normalised terms (Table 1 in **Attachment A**). Emissions also increased by 0.3 per cent in trend terms.
3. For the year to June 2018 quarter, electricity emissions in the NEM decreased by 4.4 per cent, although emissions have begun to tick back up in the June quarter, by 0.8 per cent on a seasonally adjusted and weather normalised basis, and by 0.6 per cent in trend terms, compared to the previous quarter.
4. On an annual basis, national emissions for the year to March 2018 were 536.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, which is a 1.3 per cent increase compared with the previous year (Table 3 in **Attachment A**).

- a. Increases in emissions from the *stationary energy* (excluding electricity), *transport*, *fugitive emissions*, *industrial processes and product use*, *waste* and *agriculture* sectors were partially offset by decreases from the *electricity* and *LULUCF* sectors.
5. The expansion of the LNG export industry continues to be a key driver of increases in the national inventory over the year to March 2018. Natural gas export volumes increased 25.4 per cent in the year to March 2018, and is the main contributor to:
 - a. *stationary energy* sector emissions increasing 4.6 per cent, and
 - b. *fugitive* emissions from fossil fuel extraction activities increasing 13.7 per cent.
6. National emissions are now 1.9 per cent below emissions in 2000 and 11.2 per cent below emissions in 2005.
7. The March 2018 *Quarterly Update* presents two special topics:
 - a. a comparison of emission trend outcomes for the UNFCCC (used for the 2030 target) and Kyoto Protocol (used for the 2020 target) classifications systems;
 - i. which responds to criticisms by NGOs and which shows that there is negligible difference in emissions trend outcomes regardless of which accounting system has been adopted; and
 - b. forest clearing data for the great barrier reef catchment, which is newly available for 2016-17, and which is released in the interest of timely publication of data.
 - i. The data show a slight dropping off in clearing rates for 2016-17, compared with the previous year, and that 92 per cent of activity is re-clearing of low biomass lands previously observed to have been cleared (ie graziers are mostly clearing to maintain existing pasture).
8. The *March 2018 Quarterly Update* has been submitted for release three months after the *December 2017 Quarterly Update* and around four weeks after the last data inputs have become available.
 - a. The latest data release is from the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, Resources and Energy Quarterly (REQ). The June 2018 issue of the REQ, published on 9 July 2018, provides historical data up to the March quarter 2018, and is required to calculate estimates for 36 per cent of national emissions.
9. **s47C**
10. A Departmental media release is not proposed. Talking points and the proposed web landing page for the *Quarterly Update* are at **Attachments B and C**.

Attachments

- A:** *March 2018 Quarterly Update of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory*
B: Talking Points
C: Web landing page

To: Minister for the Environment (For Decision)

RELEASE OF THE MARCH 2018 QUARTERLY UPDATE OF THE NATIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

Timing: 10 September 2018

Recommendations:			
1. That you note:			
a. the <i>March 2018 Quarterly Update of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory</i> (Attachment A) is available for immediate release; and			
b. the Department will liaise with your Office on the timing of the release of the March 2018 Quarterly Update.			
			Agreed / Not agreed
			Date:
Minister:			
Comments:			
Clearing Officer: Sent 03/09/2018	Rob Sturgiss	Assistant Secretary, NISIR / ICCEID	Ph: 6159 7388 s22
Contact Officer:	s22	Director A/g, NIT ICCEI Division	s22

Key Points:

1. This brief is a resubmission of a brief provided to Minister Frydenburg on 8 August 2018 (refers MS18-000988)
2. The *Quarterly Update* provides national emission estimates for all sectors, including the land sector, up to March 2018. It also includes emissions estimates for the National Electricity Market (NEM) for the most recent quarter (June quarter 2018).
3. Emissions in the March 2018 quarter are estimated to have increased 0.3 per cent in seasonally adjusted and weather normalised terms (Table 1 in **Attachment A**). Emissions also increased by 0.3 per cent in trend terms.
4. For the year to June 2018 quarter, electricity emissions in the NEM decreased by 4.4 per cent, although emissions have begun to tick back up in the June quarter, by 0.8 per cent on a seasonally adjusted and weather normalised basis, and by 0.6 per cent in trend terms, compared to the previous quarter.

5. On an annual basis, national emissions for the year to March 2018 were 536.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, which is a 1.3 per cent increase compared with the previous year (Table 3 in **Attachment A**).
 - a. Increases in emissions from the *stationary energy* (excluding electricity), *transport*, *fugitive emissions*, *industrial processes and product use*, *waste* and *agriculture* sectors were partially offset by decreases from the *electricity* and *LULUCF* sectors.
6. The expansion of the LNG export industry continues to be a key driver of increases in the national inventory over the year to March 2018. Natural gas export volumes increased 25.4 per cent in the year to March 2018, and is the main contributor to:
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 - i. The data show a slight dropping off in clearing rates for 2016-17, compared with the previous year, and that 92 per cent of activity is re-clearing of low biomass lands previously observed to have been cleared (ie graziers are mostly clearing to maintain existing pasture).
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10. **s47C**
11. A Departmental media release is not proposed. Talking points and the proposed web landing page for the *Quarterly Update* are at **Attachments B and C**.

Consultation: NIL

12. The Quartelry Updates are produced by the ICCEI Division without the need for external consultation.

Attachments

- A:** *March 2018 Quarterly Update of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory*
- B:** Talking Points
- C:** Web landing page