



Louise Lilley
Macroeconomic Modelling and Policy Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

Dear Ms Lilley

I write in response to your consultation on The Statistics Determination 1983.

The Department of the Environment and Energy supports the proposed changes to the Determination as a step in the right direction. Many of these changes will support the Department's work in using statistical information to make decisions that affect businesses around Australia, while maintaining the important controls regarding personally identifying information.

Even so, the Department would like to see more done to unlock the potential value of the Australian Government's vast statistical information holdings. The ABS's current transformation is going a long way to facilitate access, especially with regard to enabling staff from other agencies to access data through the DataLab program, and the ABS should be commended for this effort. However, the Statistics Determination will remain a limitation on the ability of the ABS to fully realise the broad benefits of sharing detailed statistical information.

I look forward to working with the ABS over the coming years to maximise the value of the Australian Government's statistical information and take advantage of new technology that will allow us to safely share and analyse data for public good.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matt Cahill'.

Matt Cahill
Acting Deputy Secretary
Strategy and Operations Group

13/2/18