



THE HON JIM CHALMERS MP
TREASURER

Ref: MC23-014879
Friday, 7 June 2024

Ms Susan Templeman MP
Chair
Standing Committee on Petitions
petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Chair

Thank you for your correspondence concerning Petition EN5167 about mandating the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) to hold 2 per cent of foreign currency reserves in bitcoin.

The *Reserve Bank Act 1959* provides the RBA with powers to deal in foreign exchange to achieve its policy objectives, including through the implementation of monetary policy and providing foreign exchange services to its customers, principally the Government.

The independent RBA takes its own decisions about the composition of its foreign currency reserve assets to achieve its policy objectives. The Government is committed to the operational independence of the RBA and does not intervene in these decisions.

The mandate under which the RBA manages reserves requires investments in assets of high credit quality and sufficient liquidity to allow the Bank to meet its policy objectives.

Further information about the RBA's management of foreign currency reserves can be found at:
<https://www.rba.gov.au/mkt-operations/intl-mkt-oper.html>.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Jim Chalmers MP