



**POLICY COSTING REQUEST – DURING THE CARETAKER PERIOD FOR A
GENERAL ELECTION**

Name of policy:	Increasing research and development investment
Person requesting costing:	Senator Milne
Date of request to cost the policy:	14 August 2013
<i>Note: This policy costing request and the response to this request will be made publicly available.</i>	
Has a costing of this policy been requested under Section 29 of the Charter of Budget Honesty (i.e. from the Treasury or the Department of Finance and Deregulation)?	No
Details of the public release of this policy (Date, by whom and a reference to that release)	Senator Milne and Adam Bandt MP. 14 July. http://greensmps.org.au/content/media-releases/greens-plan-australias-future
Description of policy:	
Summary of policy (as applicable, please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	Lift Australia’s investment in Research and Development up from 2.2% of GDP to 3% by 2020 so that our economy can be globally competitive in the 21 st century. http://greens.org.au/sites/greens.org.au/files/RD%20Initiative%20.pdf The Greens propose that investment should be increased, from both business and government, to achieve 3% of GDP being spent on Research & Development by 2020. Initially the Commonwealth contribution to R&D be increased proportionally to meet the 3% goal.
What is the purpose or intention of the policy?	To lift Australia’s investment in Research and Development.
What are the key assumptions that have been made in the policy, including:	
Is the policy part of a package? If yes, list and outline components and interactions with proposed or existing policies.	Yes. 3% of GDP spending on research and development is an overall target. Individual programs and Greens policies that increase research spending are counted towards this goal. For instance 7% annual increase in agricultural R&D, funding of indirect costs for research and Open Access for research publications.
Where relevant, is funding for the policy to be demand driven or a capped amount?	Demand driven
Will third parties (for instance the States/Territories) have a	Yes, third parties will have a role in delivering R&D outcomes however the costing is just for the proportion of Commonwealth

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<p>role in funding or delivering the policy?</p> <p>If yes, is the Australian Government contribution capped, with additional costs to be met by third parties, or is another funding formula envisaged?</p>	<p>funding related to R&D investment being increased to 3% of GDP.</p>			
<p>Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses?</p> <p>If yes, please provide details.</p>	<p>No</p>			
<p>Does the policy relate to a previous budget measure?</p> <p>If yes, which measure?</p>	<p>No</p>			
<p>If the proposal would change an existing measure, are savings expected from the departmental costs of implementing the program?</p>	<p>No</p>			
<p>Will the funding/program cost require indexation?</p> <p>If yes, list factors to be used.</p>	<p>No – however the target is linked to the expected changes in GDP.</p>			
<p>Expected impacts of the proposal</p>				
<p>If applicable, what are the estimated costs each year? If available, please provide details in the table below. Are these provided on an underlying cash balance or fiscal balance basis?</p>				
<p>Estimated financial implications (outturn prices) ^(a)</p>				
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Underlying cash balance (\$m)	-	300	800	1450
Fiscal balance (\$m)	-	300	800	1450
<p>(a) A positive number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A positive number in the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in cash terms.</p>				
<p>What assumptions have been made in deriving the expected financial impact in the party costing (please provide information on the data sources used to develop the policy)?</p>	<p>See previous costing received by the PBO on 27 May 2013.</p>			
<p>Has the policy been costed by a third party?</p>	<p>PBO, 27 May 2013</p>			

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If yes, can you provide a copy of this costing and its assumptions?	
<p>What is the expected community impact of the policy?</p> <p>How many people will be affected by the policy?</p> <p>What is the likely take up?</p> <p>What is the basis for these impact assessments/assumptions?</p>	Investing in the future economy
Administration of policy:	
Who will administer the policy (for example, Australian Government entity, the States, non-government organisation, etc.)?	Australian government
<p>Should departmental expenses associated with this policy be included in this costing?</p> <p>If no, will the Department be expected to absorb expenses associated with this policy?</p> <p>If yes, please specify the key assumptions, including whether departmental costs are expected with respect to program management (by policy agencies) and additional transactions/processing (by service delivery agencies).</p>	No, departments are expected to absorb the costs.
Intended date of implementation.	1 July 2014
Intended duration of policy.	Ongoing
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	No
List major data sources utilised to develop policy (for example, ABS cat. no. 3201.0).	N/A
Are there any other assumptions that need to be	No

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considered?	
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NOTE:

Please note that:

- *The costing will be on the basis of information provided in this costing request.*
- *The PBO is not bound to accept the assumptions provided by the requestor. If there is a material difference in the assumptions used by the PBO, the PBO will consult with the requestor in advance of the costing being completed.*