

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio  
2016 - 2017 Additional Estimates  
2 March 2017

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**AGENCY:** COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

**TOPIC:** Low Emissions Technology Roadmap

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator McAllister

**QUESTION No.:** AI-114

1. With respect to the contract between the CSIRO and the Department of Environment and Energy for the development of the Low Emissions Technology Roadmap:
  - a. What is the value of the contract?
  - b. What work was the CSIRO commissioned to undertake?
  - c. What was the timeline for this work?
  - d. Can a copy of the contract be provided?
  - e. Has the Minister received the CSIRO's report?
  - f. If not, when was it due and what is the reason for the delay?

**ANSWER**

- (a) The original work order issued by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Science was for \$600,000 (inclusive of GST). Due to Machinery of Government changes, responsibility for this work transferred to DoEE during the project's life.

- (b) CSIRO was contracted to undertake a project with the following scope:

Drawing on existing analyses of energy technology development in Australia, CSIRO will consider four alternative technology pathways that could help achieve Australia's 2030 emissions reduction target and continue to reduce emissions to 2050. The pathways chosen will represent a diverse (but plausible) range of energy technologies to reflect the inherent uncertainty in projecting the pace and magnitude of technological change.

Each pathway will identify a plausible energy technology mix over time, and will discuss the implications for development timelines, supply chains, and resources, particularly in relation to:

1. Australia's role in the development of low emissions energy technologies, or how Australia can best take advantage of overseas developments as an early adopter.
2. The role of Australian industries in potential supply chains for new technology mixes and opportunities to develop local industries where a potential comparative advantage could exist. This includes opportunities offered by the diversity of regional differences in the energy system and the energy needs of consumers in different regions and in remote locations.
3. The implications for Australia's energy markets of potential targeted support for particular technologies, including opportunities where government support for research and development could be most effective in terms of clear pathways to commercialisation.

- (c) The timeline proposed in the original Work Order was for a final report to be completed on 16 December 2016, but this was extended to allow additional time for the Department to review the report, for CSIRO to make any necessary modifications and for the final report to be professionally designed and produced. The current contract variation extends the contract period to 9 June 2017.
- (d) Yes. Both the original Work Order and latest Deed of Variation are attached.
- (e) CSIRO delivered a draft of the report to the Department of Environment and Energy on 14 February 2017. It is the Department's responsibility to share the report with their Minister and confirm details for its release once it is finalised.
- (f) See (e)