

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Additional Budget Estimates 2013-14
27 February 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Nishi Building – Six-Star Green Rating

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (27 February 2014, Hansard, page 42)

QUESTION No: AI-14

CHAIR: How does a green-star building deal with the fact that it has many fridges on- which presumably run 24 hours a day, seven days a week? Is there some trick, or some sort of clever energy usage.

Ms Graham: You have probably gone way beyond my technical expertise, now, in terms of green-star buildings. But I will certainly take that on notice and get you some more information.

Ms Weston: And certainly it features solar cells and green design, reducing projected electricity and air conditioning requirements and so on that would help assist with the six-star rating.

CHAIR: Maybe the solar cells help generate some electricity to run the fridges

ANSWER

As part of the Nishi Fit-out Project, the project team in the former Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, in consultation with the project consultants, had oversight of the building energy requirements. The purchase of fridges included the review of the energy consumptions to ensure that they met the requirements to achieve the energy rating. It should be noted that while the original tender included 1 wine fridge, the final purchase included standard fridges only.

The solar cell system is a landlord owned and operated facility. The power generated by the solar cells feeds into the building's power system and assists in running the air conditioning and base building lighting. Any additional power generated is fed back into the power grid as a green power source for other consumers to purchase and is a landlord responsibility.