

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0853_10

Senator Birmingham provided in writing.

Have any assessors under the Home Sustainability Assessments Scheme (HSAS) had their fees for the HSAS or related fees paid for under the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS) or are participants of the NEIS program?

Answer

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) is not aware of any New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS) businesses having had their fees for the HSAS, or related fees, paid for under the NEIS.

As at 2 March 2010, 22 NEIS businesses nationally have been identified by DEEWR as including Home Sustainability Assessments as part of their approved business plan.

NEIS arrangements routinely include scope for NEIS providers to work with participants when business plans change. In line with these existing NEIS arrangements, these participants will work with their NEIS providers to develop new or amended business plans or have the option to defer their NEIS participation for up to 13 weeks, for example, so that they can avail themselves of other opportunities under the Government's future environmental programs.