

Joint Standing Committee on Trade and Investment Growth

Public hearing for the inquiry into Australia's transition to a green energy superpower

Question on notice

Senator CANAVAN: There's a page on your website about the Central Queensland hydrogen project. That was apparently updated on 23 January 2023. This project is a joint venture. Stanwell is the Australian partner, a Queensland energy producer, and it looks like there are three or four different Japanese investors. What's the involvement of CSIRO? Given this is my last question, I'll also add: I note that in the feasibility study the cost of hydrogen delivered to Japan is, in the first phase, just under \$20 a kilogram. That seems very high. If you are involved in this, have you got any comments about the number that's come out and why it is so very expensive?

Dr Mayfield: I don't have any direct line of sight to what we're doing there.

Dr Tourbier: I don't know. I'm not familiar with all the details at the moment, so we'll take that on notice rather than say something that's not correct.

Senator CANAVAN: Are you involved in it, or you don't even know that?

Dr Tourbier: I do not know the answer to that. I'm not familiar with the project, but, as I said, I can take that on notice.

Senator CANAVAN: Okay. Take it on notice. Thanks.

CSIRO response to Question on Notice

CSIRO is not a partner in the Central Queensland Hydrogen project. The Central Queensland Hydrogen project is one example of information available on HyResource (<https://research.csiro.au/hyresource/>), a knowledge sharing platform which helps facilitate connections and collaborations in the Australian hydrogen community.

CSIRO is a partner in the HyResource project which also involves the Australian Hydrogen Council, National Energy Resources Australia, the Future Fuels Cooperative Research Centre. It aims to capture information about organisations involved in the research, development and deployment of clean hydrogen.

As part of CSIRO's role in HyResource, the information is hosted on CSIRO's research website to make this information more accessible and to improve knowledge sharing. This does not mean that CSIRO is a partner in these projects.