

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2017–2018, 29 & 30 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000756

**OUTCOME:** 2 – Health Access and Support Services

**Topic:** P1024 and Nanomaterials

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Rice, Janet

**Question:**

A number of papers suggest that nano-silver is more toxic than bulk silver because of its greater solubility. Doesn't this call into question the entire approach of depending on solubility?

**Answer:**

No.

The principles introduced by Proposal P1024 are intended to separate nanoscale materials according to their solubility in water or oil into two categories of assessment only. Those that are soluble would be subject to a conventional chemical risk assessment process. Materials that are insoluble would be subject to an assessment that also considers the implications of any potential novel physicochemical properties that may be associated with the particulate nature of the material.