

SENATE ECONOMICS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – 2014-15 ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 FEBRUARY 2015
INDUSTRY AND SCIENCE PORTFOLIO

Q No.	Senator	Division/ Agency	Broad topic	Question	Hansard page & date or Written question	Date received by Secretariat	Date tabled
AI-1	Waters	AIMS	National Sea Simulator	<p>Senator WATERS: Thank you for your responses to my questions on notice around your funding and your research activities. First of all, I want to take you to one of those answers. I have got QoN SI-125 here with me, which you answered and discussed the National Sea Simulator. You noted in that response that your budget has been cut by \$7.8 million over the forwards and that you therefore had to scale back parts of your research, particularly the strategic research. I want to firstly go to that National Sea Simulator. Can you just explain in general terms what that program actually does?</p> <p>Mr Gunn: The National Sea Simulator is in fact a piece of infrastructure rather than a project in itself. We claim it is the most sophisticated experimental facility available to the topic of marine science anywhere in the world. It allows us to do a very broad range of experimental studies ranging from climate change through to ecotoxicology looking at crown of thorns larval survival, et cetera. In talking about the impacts of a budget reduction, what we are really talking about is the ability to use that facility to conduct science projects rather than in any way talking about the base running of that facility. We actually have funds in our appropriation budget to keep the water flowing and the control systems working.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Can you talk about the work on dredging and dumping and the information that the simulator can reveal to us on that?</p> <p>Mr Gunn: What I can outline is the first stages of the work that we are doing in the sea simulator. This is research funded from the Western Australian Marine Science Institution in Western Australia. Its objective is to look at the tolerance of different tropical organisms such as sponges, coral, et cetera, to different types of dredged soil or dredge impact. In its early stages, what we have been able to do is establish an experimental set-up that allows us to simulate different types of dredge operations and then, using some of the stock of corals and sponges in our collections, we are able to then put those organisms through a range of different types of experimental conditions. Those results are yet to be completed, but we are hoping</p>	Pages 81-82 26.2.15		

				<p>to have something published within the next 12 to 18 months.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: You mentioned that the impact of the funding cuts was not that you could not run the simulator anymore, because you are able to keep it ticking over, but it was more the projects that you could apply it to. Could you tell me which particular projects or what work has been either delayed, reduced or dropped because of that \$7.8 million funding reduction over the forwards?</p> <p>Mr Gunn: I have put some of that on record previously at Senate estimates. What would probably be worth outlining is that the dredging experiment I described a minute ago is going ahead because we can essentially use the budget that we have for the sea simulator and supplement that with the money that is being provided by the Western Australian Marine Science Institution. All good research organisations have many more ideas than their research scientists can do. Each year we call for proposals from our own scientists to conduct what I call early stage research with the sea simulator, research that is not ready to provide advice to the government or into industry. We invite them to put proposals up. In effect, we cannot fund as many of those projects as we would if we had not had a cut.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Can you perhaps take on notice to list those projects that you have been unable to fund that you would have perhaps deemed worthy to fund had the means been there?</p>			
AI-2	Carr	CSIRO	SME Engagement Centres	<p>Senator KIM CARR: You speak specifically about engagement with local small and medium businesses; that is, Australian companies. You are also interested in looking at international engagement. The SME Engagement Centre is already in existence. What role do you think that will play in the strategy that you are outlining?</p> <p>Dr Marshall: As you also know I have a strong passion for SMEs, particularly Australian SMEs with unique technology, so I think that is a central role in the strategy going forward. Of course historically the organisation has a great track record of helping SMEs.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes. The website for the SME Engagement Centre refers particularly to the engagement of businesses referred by Enterprise Connect. Are you aware of whether there has been any drop-off in SME engagements with CSIRO since Enterprise Connect has been abolished?</p> <p>Dr Marshall: I am not directly aware of that. I did, however, notice that I think seven of the 10 recent SME awards were CSIRO related. I will refer to Mr Roy.</p> <p>Mr Roy: I cannot answer the specifics of your question but we can take that on notice. You will recall in our recent reorganisation where we focused on three particular lines of business which made this</p>	Page 87 26.2.15		

				distinct. One of them was very much around services and SMEs being a large part of that. What Dr Marshall is bringing to the organisation is to say, 'Let's keep that going and maybe go harder', on the SMEs. We are now in that stage of the cycle where our current strategy comes to completion at 30 June this year so we are putting a lot of thought now into repositioning and how you best position the organisation for the nation following that time.			
AI-3	Carr	Science and Commercialisation Policy	SRI - Budget Tables – Science and Research Funding	<p>Senator KIM CARR: The way I see it the SRA tables tell me that the funding has actually declined from \$9.6 billion to \$9 billion. It was \$9.6 billion under Labor to \$9 billion under this government. Now, that is not quite consistent with what you have told the committee.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: When you look at the actual expenditure figures they will show that there has been an increase in that.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I have only got the tables in front of me.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: The other thing I spoke about was the net increase in the science and research budget from the last budget.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I have the tables in front of me. I am saying that you told me that there has been a growth in funding according to those tables. That is not true, is it?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I can go through it. I have just been handed some of the figures. For 2013-14, an \$8.6 billion estimate and the estimated actual is \$9.5 billion. I think we are looking at a higher figure than that for actuals for this year. From 2013-14 there has been an increase from the estimate to the actual expenditure.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What I have in front of me are the tables. In 2013-14 it is \$9.5 billion down to \$9.1 billion. Can you tell me if I have misread the table?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: What the table might refer to is the estimated actual, and I am referring to the actual.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: When did you publish these tables?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I will have to take that notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The government's record on science is very poor and you ought to make sure that the tables that you publish are actually consistent with what you have said.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I think there is probably a timing issue. I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It is certainly a timing issue.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I will take that on notice and clarify that.</p>	Page 90 26.2.15		
AI-4	Waters	CSIRO	CSG – Stage 2 funding	<p>Senator Ronaldson: I think I can answer that question. I think it is about one per cent of existing CSG wells. This was a pilot study.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: That was stage 1. We are onto stage 2 now.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Are you talking about what is going to happen?</p>	Page 96 26.2.15		

				<p>Senator WATERS: Yes. So, coming back to stage 2, the literature review has been done. You are in talks about how to get access to the wells. What is the time frame for finishing off stage 2?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: I do not know exactly when it is going to be finished. As we have discovered in the discussions, it is actually a complex optimisation problem, because the point in time when the wells are actually being completed is very short and so we need to make sure that the team is in the right location and looking at the right type of well. I would say, over the course of the year, I certainly hope we complete that work.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I will just say that Geoscience Australia, who the committee sent home, could have probably assisted with a lot of your questions in relation to coal seam gas as well.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I have asked them about it before and I do have some questions for them on notice but these questions are about a CSIRO report, so I thought CSIRO would be the best place to respond to them.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: In relation to their report, they are the best to respond.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Yes. That is what we are asking about. What is the amount of funding for stage 2?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: I do not know exactly, off the top of my head, but I am aware that the Department of Environment has made the funding available.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Your response to the question on notice said that \$190,000 had been allocated by the Department of the Environment over one year. Has that changed or is that still the same?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: I would expect that is the same, but I can certainly check that.</p>			
AI-5	Waters	CSIRO	CSG - Gas Compression and Water Treatment	<p>Senator WATERS: Yes. Agreed. You mentioned in the response to that question on notice that the scientific evidence base about fugitive emissions for shale and tight gas 'would benefit from further Australian specific measurements'. You have just responded that you are not sure if that is going to be within CSIRO's scope. You said other work is being done but not on fugitives, if I understood your response correctly, so what level of confidence can we have in the energy emissions factors for shale and tight gas, the greenhouse reporting?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: The whole purpose of the study is to determine appropriate emissions factors for coal seam gas so at the end of the study we will be able to determine that.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: And for shale and tight gas how can we be confident in the end-use methodology for ascertaining those levels if</p>	Page 97 26.2.15		

				<p>the studies would benefit from further specific measurements?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: We would have to do similar work. I should also say that I think the key issue in Australia is actually coal seam gas, not shale and tight gas, because that is obviously the major development that is currently underway, which is why we have certainly focused our efforts on understanding coal seam gas in particular.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: That is certainly what is happening at the moment but, of course, many approvals for shale and tight gas are currently being sought, so clearly that is the next phase. Just sticking with phase 2—I am almost finished with the extraction questions—what stages of production will you examine? You mentioned well completion, gas compression and water treatment. Are there any other stages of production, or is it those three?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: My understanding is that is currently the planned scope for the study. However, there is obviously other pieces of work that we are doing in other contexts that might look at different aspects of the CSG production system.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Could you take on notice to give me a bit more detail on those other studies, given that the clock is ticking right now? I am interested in the full scope of work.</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: I certainly can.</p>			
AI-6	Waters	CSIRO	Impacts on underwater aquifers	<p>Senator WATERS: In terms of the scope of that assessment, can you confirm that it does not include shale and tight gas, that it is just focused on CSG?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: That is my understanding.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: If you can clarify for me something that I find confusing, that study is not looking at the impacts on underground aquifers. How can you look at the impact of mobilising geogenetics if you are not looking at the impact on aquifers?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: When you look at the modelling impacts it obviously takes those things into account, but I think it is also important to note that there are other studies that quite extensively look at the hydrological issues. You can take, for example, the bioregional assessments.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I do not think those ones are looking at geogenetics.</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: No, they do not.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I am trying to zero in on what work is being done around whether that is going to get into aquifers, which is obviously the prime health concern.</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: Yes. Some of the modelling work certainly looks at having the tools at hand to understand and model the propagation.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Perhaps you can give me as much information</p>	Pages 98-99 26.2.15		

				<p>on notice to help me understand how you can look at one thing but not the other when they are linked in my view.</p> <p>Your website states that the assessment will consider the preliminary environmental risks from those geogenetics being mobilised, depending on the availability of data. What is the level of data that is available?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: I do not know, but I can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: I am just interested in the work that you have done so far with the national assessment, have you been able to find that there is already a lot of information in the field that you can refer to or is there a lack of information about those geogenetic things being mobilised?</p> <p>The assessment is also looking at models to predict the extent of fracture growth. What do we know so far about fracture growth and, particularly, the risks associated with it?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: We are quite fortunate to have one of the world's leading experts on hydraulic fracturing working in CSIRO, Dr Rob Jeffrey. He has a very good understanding and modelling tools that help us to describe the propagation of hydraulic fractures in the subsurface, but we are also calibrating against actual measurements that we are conducting. I would say that is a relatively well understood field.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Can you take on notice to point me to some literature that he has prepared to help me further?</p> <p>Dr Wonhas: Sure</p>			
AI-7	Carr	CSIRO	Australia's Telescope National Facility Steering Committee	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Page 185 of MYEFO. It says, 'The government has abolished CSIRO Australia's Telescope National Facility Steering Committee', and there are a whole lot of others. What has happened there?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: As part of the smaller government, you are right, we have been looking at rationalising a number of boards and committees and taking them out of the process for government appointed representatives. Where there is a clear business need within CSIRO that they need technical expertise to assist in doing their jobs then the government is saying, 'We are abolishing it at the government political level. If you need it as part of your business then you need to look at a much simpler and streamlined process within CSIRO.'</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So, the government is not appointing people to the committee? Is that what has happened?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I think the appointments are made by the board.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: They used to be made by whom?</p>	Pages 99-100 26.2.15		

				<p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Hazel Bennett: I believe previously the appointments were made by the minister.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: On the recommendation of the board?</p> <p>Ms Hazel Bennett: I am sorry, but I would not be able to answer that.</p>			
AI-8	Carr	CSIRO	Australia's Telescope National Facility Steering Committee	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What is the difference in the two bodies, the one that was formerly appointed by the minister and announced for abolition in MYEFO and the one that you are now running through the board?</p> <p>Ms Hazel Bennett: As I have indicated, in broad the functions of the committees are the same. It is part of administrative efficiency and streamlining.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Administrative efficiency! How much does it cost to run the board?</p> <p>Ms Hazel Bennett: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Is there a difference in the cost?</p> <p>Ms Hazel Bennett: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 100 26.2.15		
AI-9	Carr	CSIRO	Appointment – International Adviser	<p>Senator KIM CARR: So, there is no reduction in red tape. It is the same body with the same people, same function and same cost.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: There is quite a reduction in red tape in forms of reducing the amount of time—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The minister does not have to write a letter to the cabinet secretary. Is that the difference?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Will you please let the secretary finish. She is a quarter of her way into her answer.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: CSIRO has determined the business needs of their organisation, quite rightly, and it is up to CSIRO and the CSIRO board, and indeed the CEO, to determine what sort of technical advice they need to pursue their functions.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is exactly what happened before. The only difference is the minister is not nominating the membership of the advisory committee. Is that right?</p> <p>Mr Roy: We do not have the details with us today. We can provide on notice the size, the composition of the committee and that sort of information.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I appreciate your doing that but I think the proposition I am putting to you is correct, that the statement that the government made about this matter in MYEFO is a farce. It has nothing to do with efficiency. It has nothing to do with cost reduction. It has nothing to do with changes in function. The only thing that I can think of that has happened is that the international adviser position on the committee has not been filled. Is that right?</p>	Pages 100-101 26.2.15		

				<p>Mr Roy: I would have to take that on notice. I do know that the board has appointed a new chair and appointed a small number of positions at its last meeting.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What has happened to the international adviser?</p> <p>Mr Roy: I do not have the answer to that.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You are not going to tell me that that is the big efficiency improvement: you are not going to have an international adviser? Maybe that is it. Maybe that is the point I am missing here.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I think the question in relation to the international adviser can be taken on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Astronomy is an international business, isn't it?</p> <p>Dr Marshall: Yes.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It really is. It would be somewhat odd if you did not have an international adviser. Would that be the case? Is that the efficiency that you have cut the international bit out of the international engagement?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: The question in relation to that position was taken on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I take it the position is still being pursued; is that right? There are a lot of blank faces here.</p> <p>Mr Roy: We do not have the detail, so we will take it on notice.</p>			
AI-10	Carr	Corporate	Questions on Notice	<p>Ms Beauchamp: During the period that we were checking the more detailed questions on notice there were machinery-of-government changes and the holiday period. So, unfortunately, these two fell through the cracks. We probably did not follow up with the minister's office on an active basis, as we should have done. But they were indeed tabled on the 9th, which was well before this hearing.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So they were eight weeks late.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: My apologies that they were late.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I appreciate that, and I thank you for your remarks. It is not always the case that the secretary needs to take responsibility, in so far as it is possible that they were held up in the minister's office. It is implied from your answer that that is what happened. Is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: No, they were not held up in the office. We actually found a couple of anomalies in one of them, so we re-checked the two answers to questions on notice that were late and made sure they were correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: When were they delivered the minister's office?</p>	Pages 101-102 26.2.15		

				Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take on notice the question of when the finals were delivered to the minister's office.			
AI-11	Carr	Corporate	Questions on Notice	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I have some updated versions of the spreadsheets that I now require, so I trust we will not have the same level of delay. There will be no machinery-of-government problems now, will there?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: The sorts of answers that have been requested rely on actuals and commitments. As you would be aware, when you have a number of programs with a number of different funding agreements, those figures can change daily. Yes, we can get them updated for you, but it would be as at a particular date.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Of course, that is right; I understand that. I just cannot see how that explains being eight-week overdue. There are the spreadsheets with a lot of zeros in them. I would not have thought they were particularly difficult. Question on notice S1122 regarding the automotive industry, that was eight weeks overdue. Can you tell me why that one was overdue? Is that the one with the anomaly in it? Was that the problem there?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take it on notice whether this one had to be corrected....</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is right. You got them to the minister's office by the due date, by 12 December, but it took eight weeks for them to come out. It is not your problem at all, is it?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: As I said, we found a couple of anomalies in these questions and resubmitted them after that.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: In this question? On the automotive question you found anomalies? Is that right?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I would have to take that on notice again.</p>	Pages 102-103 26.2.15		
AI-12	Carr	Science and Commercialisation Policy	Strengthening School-Industry STEM Skills Partnerships	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. The next one is CN2841762. And this was 9 February, so presumably it was after the machinery-of-government changes—this is Strengthening School-Industry STEM Skills Partnerships.</p> <p>Ms Weston: We understand that that one was relating to the Chief Scientist.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I should have asked him. It is in the Department of Industry, isn't it?</p> <p>Ms Weston: That is correct. There might be one of his officers here. I will check. We understand that that relates to the national science adviser, and we will have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 103 26.2.15		
AI-13	Carr	AusIndustry Business Services	Innovation Australia Board	Senator KIM CARR: Is it true that the minister attended a meeting of the innovation board and told them that they had been abolished as well?	Page 105-106 26.2.15		

				<p>Ms Peterson: It is true that the minister did attend the board meeting in September 2014. It is not correct that the board have been told that they will be abolished.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: No, but they were advised that the government was going to abolish them. Is that the case?</p> <p>Ms Peterson: Sorry, was not going to?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The minister advised the board that they were to be abolished?</p> <p>Ms Peterson: No, I do not believe that that is correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The way it was put to me is that the minister made the statement and then it was drawn to his attention that the innovation board is actually covered by an act of parliament. Would it be possible that the minister would go to a board meeting and make a statement like that without departmental advice that the board could not be abolished without legislative change?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: This officer said that that comment was not made by—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is not what she said. She did not know.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: No, she said that the comment was not made. She said that the minister did not advise the board.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Is that what you are saying? It did not happen?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: If you are referring to exactly what the minister said, it is probably wise that we take it on notice—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It is probably very wise.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: rather than speculate in terms of exactly what was said.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I am also asking if it is possible to see a situation where the minister will go to the board and advise them that the government intended to abolish them, then to be told that it could not be done without legislative change?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: That is hypothetical. The question has been taken on notice, and we can get you the answer.</p>			
AI-14	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Pharmaceutical Industry Working Group	<p>Senator KIM CARR: That is very good. What has happened to PIWG?</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: It was determined that PIWG would no longer meet. My understanding—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Sorry, let me make that clear. It was determined that PIWG would no longer meet?</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: When was that determined?</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: I recall it was around October and November last year. But I would have to take the exact date on notice to see if I</p>	Page 106 26.2.15		

				could find out when that occurred.			
AI-15	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Pharmaceutical Industry Working Group – new group	<p>Mr Chesworth: All I can say is that the range of issues that PIWG would discuss fell often in areas such as the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, which was well and truly in the Health portfolio, and I think there was a tendency for industry issues, as they related to our portfolio, to come behind issues of reimbursement for the pharma companies.</p> <p>CHAIR: So there was a duplication?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: No, that is—</p> <p>CHAIR: I am just asking. I used to have a black and white telly. Eventually we moved on because there was a better version or things—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I would not compare this to a black and white telly.</p> <p>CHAIR: It is fair to say that probably, from what you just said then, ultimately it became just another forum to talk about a thing that was already addressed in another forum, which is the PBS?</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: I think it has been the case or was becoming the case that the issues that the industry want to raise they will either raise through other means jointly with ministers or directly with ministers themselves.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Mr Chesworth, that is nonsense. The purpose of the meeting was because they could not raise them elsewhere. That is why we had to have the meetings: to get the Health officials and the Industry officials in the room together, because they could not actually have these conversations with industry. Isn't that true?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Chair, can I help this discussion. I am advised by the minister's office that he is working with the new Minister for Health on a new working group covering health and industry issues. I am unable to provide the committee with any more information than that, but I will take on notice further details of that working group.</p>	Page 107 26.2.15		
AI-16	Carr	AusIndustry Entrepreneur Development	R&D Tax – Advanced Finding Applications	<p>Senator KIM CARR: So you keep a record not just of the company but also of the advice that you tender?</p> <p>Mr Lewis: That is correct. If I may elaborate, the advance findings actually bind the tax commissioner when it comes to the company's ability to make R&D expenditure claims in respect of those particular activities.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So they have real force?</p> <p>Mr Lewis: Yes, that is correct. They are intended to have force in order to give companies certainty of their tax position.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How many firms, on average, would seek advice from you? I know you cannot tell me individual companies and I am not seeking individual companies, but can you tell me how</p>	Pages 110-112 26.2.15		

				<p>many on average?</p> <p>Ms Anton: We have received 94 advanced finding applications over the life of the program.</p> <p>Mr Lewis: That is from 2011 up until 31 December 2014.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How many of those 94 applications are undertaking R&D activities over 2015 and 2016?</p> <p>Mr Lewis: I will take that on notice. It is likely to be a relatively modest number because companies have up until 30 June to make an application for activities that they may be commencing in the current year.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So you have not got them all in yet?</p> <p>Mr Lewis: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I am interested in a number of advanced findings that you have made, so they are predeterminations in effect, for activities undertaken in 2015-16.</p> <p>Mr Lewis: We will take that on notice, in part because advance findings last for up to three years if the activities being determined in those advance findings run over that sort of period. It may be that some of those findings made in the past couple of years also extend into 2015-16 year....</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: No, that is right. I understand that, but you have given advance findings, possibly as many as 94 of them. How many of those would be for claims greater than \$100 million?</p> <p>Mr Lewis: I cannot give you that information.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Are there many?</p> <p>Mr Lewis: I would not imagine so.</p> <p>Ms Anton: We can take that on notice.</p>			
AI-17	Carr	AusIndustry Entrepreneur Development	R&D Tax Assessment	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I am because we have been in this game for a long time and we know that we cannot rely on Treasury estimates or projections in this area, whereas I do have some confidence that your work dealing directly with companies is likely to produce more reliable statistics. What is your estimate of the number of companies that are affected?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: That is really hypothetical, given that the Treasurer and the Minister for Finance have already indicated that it is fewer than 25 corporate companies and I think the Treasury would have access to the proper data to make that assessment through the tax office.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: And the tax accountants wouldn't? Because they are the ones who have made the claim that the figures that the Treasury have issued are wrong.</p> <p>Mr Lewis: AusIndustry's figures are that there are 24 groups of</p>	Page 113 26.2.15		

				<p>companies that were registered in 2012-13 that had registered an amount over \$100 million.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So there are 24 groups of companies. How many companies does that involve? You said they are groups of companies. How many individual companies are there?</p> <p>Mr Lewis: I am not certain how many individual companies—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How many companies are there in the Wesfarmers group, as an example?</p> <p>Mr Lewis: We would have to take that on notice. But certainly under the R&D tax incentive corporate groups register for the incentive in the same way that corporate groups deal with the tax system....</p>			
AI-18	Carr	AusIndustry Entrepreneur Development	R&D Tax Measure	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Here you can. I am asking you to comment on a report in <i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i> on 11 February. I am asking you: is it true that companies that were not affected by the original measure—that is, the \$20 billion threshold—are now being caught up in the new amendment of a \$100 million cap?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Unless this officer has actually seen this report, I do not really know how he—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I am sure we can provide him with a copy of <i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i>. I mean, it is not a banned publication yet!</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: Perhaps at the same time we might also get a copy of a similar policy to this which I think was announced in the 2013-14 budget by Prime Minister Gillard and Treasurer Swan which was banked but was not legislated.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You are wrong about that. It is not a similar policy. Without being specific about any individual company, I have cited a particular example. I am asking you, Ms Anton, is it possible that companies that were not affected by the original instrument as announced in the budget, the \$20 billion threshold, are now affected by the \$100 million cap?</p> <p>Ms Anton: I would prefer to take that on notice.</p>	Page 113-114 26.2.15		
AI-19	Carr	Science and Commercialisation Policy	R&D Tax - Innovation Australia	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. Was the innovation board consulted about these changes?</p> <p>Ms Schofield: Sorry, about which changes in particular?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: There are two measures. Were they consulted about either of those measures?</p> <p>Ms Schofield: I think I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Have they been consulted about the unintended consequences that might flow from these changes?</p> <p>Ms Schofield: We have certainly provided advice to Innovation Australia about these amendments and what they mean.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Hang on, you have provided advice? Have</p>	Page 114 26.2.15		

				<p>they been consulted? Have they provided you with advice? Ms Schofield: We have had a conversation with the Innovation Australia board about these amendments. Senator KIM CARR: And they have provided you with advice, have they? Ms Schofield: Yes. Senator KIM CARR: What date was that? Ms Schofield: I would have to take that on notice; I cannot remember. Ms Anton: It was the most recent Innovation Australia board meeting. We can take the specific date on notice. Senator KIM CARR: But what about the other proposal that is being advance by the government—that is, the reduction of 1.5 per cent on the rate? Ms Schofield: That measure is currently sitting before the Senate having been subject to inquiry. Senator KIM CARR: Has the Innovation board been consulted about that? Ms Schofield: I will double-check this on notice, but I understand that they contributed a submission as part of the inquiry. Senator KIM CARR: Which inquiry was that they submitted to? Ms Schofield: I will take it on notice. I am sorry I do not have the details in front of me.</p>			
AI-20	Carr	Science and Commercialisation Policy	R&D Tax - effects on supply chain - Innovation Australia	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. Has the department done any assessment on the effect of these changes on the R&D supply chain—the combined measures, either of the measures or both measures—on companies that supply the larger firms, university partners or private research labs? Has there been any assessment done on the effect? Ms Schofield: We provided advice to Treasury and the minister on this measure as we would with any other piece of legislation that was being changed. Senator KIM CARR: Has Innovation Australia had a look at the effects on the supply chain? Ms Schofield: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 114 26.2.15		
AI-21	Carr	Resources	CO2CRC – Carbon Capture and Storage Grant	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I understand the CO2CRC, which did not progress to interview for the CRC program funding but has received funding from another source. Is that correct? Ms Beauchamp: I understand the CRC program funding has ceased, and the CO2CRC won a grant under the Carbon Capture and Storage Flagships Program. Senator KIM CARR: Who administers that? Ms Beauchamp: We administer that on behalf of the minister. Senator KIM CARR: So one branch of the department said, 'You're</p>	Page 116 26.2.15		

				<p>not getting money,' and another branch said, 'You are.' Is that what happened?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I think it was for a specific project; it was not actually for the CRC itself.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How much money did they get?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: The grant was \$25 million over five years. As the secretary has outlined, it was not for the general operations of the CRC in total but dedicated to the Otway facility, which is a specific research facility for the testing of sequestration of CO2.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: The application would have been gone into the carbon capture and storage program some time ago, wouldn't it?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I am not sure what 'some time' might mean.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: When was the application submitted?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: There was discussion and work about that over a period of time.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Can you tell me the date on which an application was submitted and the \$25 million from the carbon capture and storage program?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I can certainly take that on notice for the exact date.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Was it recently? Was it five years ago? When was it?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: He said he would take it on notice.</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: It was certainly prior to the budget and, as I said, over a period of time. I will take the exact date on notice.</p>			
AI-22	Carr	AusIndustry Business Services	CO2CRC – CRC Program	<p>Senator KIM CARR: When was the decision taken that the CRC program not fund the CO2 CRC? When was that decision taken? I am talking about the CRC committee.</p> <p>Mr Stirling: That is correct. That was a funding recommendation from the CRC committee. I will have to take the exact date of this decision on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. When would it be, roughly? Was it last year's round?</p> <p>Mr Stirling: It was last year's funding extension round—round 17.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: When were those round 17 submissions considered?</p> <p>Mr Stirling: Applications closed in July 2014.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So, in July 2014 they closed. The committee would have met within a few months of that date.</p> <p>Mr Stirling: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What was the date of the committee meeting?</p> <p>Mr Stirling: I do not have the exact date of the committee meeting with me. I have some dates here. Applications closed on 3 July 2014. The committee deliberated in relation to those applications. I do not</p>	Page 116 26.2.15		

				have the exact date with me. I can take the exact date on notice, but it was between July and August. Applicants were advised of the stage 1 outcomes on 22 September 2014.			
AI-23	Carr	Resources	CO2CRC - Carbon Capture and Storage Grant	<p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, sure. What was the date on which the cabinet signed off on the \$25 million grant for the CO2 CRC?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I do not think we will be talking about cabinet decisions.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: We are entitled to know the date of the decision. What was the date of that?</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: On what basis are we entitled to know that?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It has been standard administrative practice in the Senate for a generation.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: I do not know whether that is right.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Check with the Clerk.</p> <p>Senator Ronaldson: We will take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: It was a decision of the minister, and the minister announced it recently. I do not have the exact date. I would have to get back to you.</p>	Page 117 26.2.14		
AI-24	Carr	Resources	CO2CRC - State Funding	<p>Senator KIM CARR: That is right. How can it be that the CO2 entity is able to contract and has been told by the CRC committee that it is no longer going to receive money? Isn't the normal practice for wind-up proceedings to commence?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: There is a distinction between, as I said, the total funding of a CRC program, and its entire sweep of work, and the funding for a specific physical infrastructure facility which this entity will manage, having secured funding from a range of other sources, both corporate and, I believe, state government.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How much from the state government?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I can take the exact figures on notice, but they have arranged a range of funding.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I appreciate your taking on notice the detail. State government—how much?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: It is going to be less than the Commonwealth contribution.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I am sure it would be. It is a state government. How much less?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: I do not have the number. We might be able to find it and come back this evening. Otherwise, I will take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Harman: The money that has been provided goes to the Otway project and it specifically goes for a whole work program. There are a number of contributors to that program. I have not got the numbers specifically for the Victorian government in front of me.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So the Victorian government has put money</p>	Page 117-118 26.2.15		

				<p>in. When did they decide to do that?</p> <p>Ms Harman: It was part of the CO2CRC working with its members around what its annual work program would look like. I would have to take on notice what the specific date might have been. I have not been privy to that.</p>			
AI-25	Carr	Resources	CO2CRC – Date of Application and Business Plan	<p>Senator KIM CARR: When was the application made to the minister?</p> <p>Ms Harman: I would have to take on notice the exact date, but a business plan was provided to the department well in advance of the previous budget where the decision was made.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: What was the date of that?</p> <p>Ms Harman: I would have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 118 26.2.15		
AI-26	Carr	Resources	CO2CRC – Consortia Members	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What other partners are involved?</p> <p>Ms Harman: Again, I will have to take that on notice. There are a whole range of companies, including the CSIRO, Geoscience Australia, University of Adelaide, Curtin, Melbourne, Monash, University of New South Wales—a whole host of companies ranging from Chevron, Glencore, Inpex.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That consortia has been involved in the Otway Basin project for some time, hasn't it?</p> <p>Ms Harman: That is right.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How much money have they received overall for the project? Do you know that?</p> <p>Ms Harman: Again, I just have not got that information directly in front of me.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I understand your point. Mr Sterling, who is involved in the CO2CRC? Who are the consortia members?</p> <p>Mr Sterling: The CO2CRC ended on 31 December 2014. In terms of the consortium members that were involved, I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: But they would be the same people, wouldn't they?</p> <p>Mr Sterling: I do not know that: I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You might do that, but I am sure the website will tell us in due course. Is it true, Ms Harman, they are substantially the same people?</p> <p>Ms Harman: I will take that on notice.</p>	Pages 118 and 119 26.2.15		
AI-27	Carr	AusIndustry Business Services	CRC - Extension for Funding	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How many years are they funded for?</p> <p>Ms Harman: They have an out program which goes for five years, which is what we have contributed to.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is the \$25 million for this time.</p> <p>Ms Harman: That is correct.</p>	Page 118 26.2.15		

				<p>Senator KIM CARR: Was there not a previous funding commitment?</p> <p>Mr Hoffman: Under the CRC program.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: And why did the CRC program not continue the funding?</p> <p>Mr Sterling: The CRC committee made a funding recommendation in relation to the application that was provided by the CO2CRC. It was for an extension funding. You recall that round 17 was limited to extension applications only. And the CRC committee made a decision that the application that was put in by the CO2CRC was not meritorious.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It lacked merit. Why?</p> <p>Mr Sterling: I will have to take the exact details of that on notice for you.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: How much was the application for?</p> <p>Mr Sterling: I will have to take that on notice too, Senator, I am sorry.</p>			
AI-28	Carr	AusIndustry Business Services	Australian Petroleum CRC	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How much did the CRC secure in funding over its life?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Sorry, Senator, what was the question?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Over its life. Mr Sterling? It did have funding for a couple of rounds, didn't it?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: \$74.5 million, I understand, for this particular—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Seventy-four?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Since 1991.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Since 1991?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Sorry, I will check that, but I understand that to be the figure.</p> <p>Mr Sterling: There have been two different entities over the period since 1991. The rest of the answer the secretary gave is correct.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Seventy-five million. What was the first entity called?</p> <p>Mr Sterling: Australian Petroleum CRC.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: At what point was the name changed?</p> <p>Mr Sterling: I will have to take the detail of that on notice.</p>	Page 119 26.2.15		
AI-29	Carr	Resources	CO2CRC – Independent Evaluator	<p>Senator KIM CARR: I have got one final question on that CO2CRC. Was there an independent evaluation of the business case? Could you tell me that?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: On the CO2?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, the ministerial grant of \$25 million.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: It is part of the Carbon Capture and Storage Flagships Program. I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I would like to know the name of that</p>	Page 121 26.2.15		

				independent evaluator. Ms Beauchamp: I will take that on notice.			
AI-30	Carr	AusIndustry Business Services	ATS registration	<p>Senator KIM CARR: How many firms are registered for ATS at the moment?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: Paul Sexton, General Manager, AusIndustry. I can answer that question. There are currently—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Sorry?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: Paul Sexton, General Manager, AusIndustry.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes, I know who you are, but how many firms?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: One hundred and twenty-two.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Twenty-two? So it was 128 last time. What has happened?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: There have been six companies in the supply chain that have left the scheme, two of those as a result of their businesses being sold to another supply chain member—</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Consolidated.</p> <p>Mr Sexton: and four of those who have fallen below the threshold for eligibility in the program have dropped out of the scheme.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Is there not ministerial discretion for eligibility within the program?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: There is the ability for a company to seek continuing registration under national interest provisions. None of those four have gone down that path.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Have you advised them of their eligibility to do so?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: All those four are continuing to supply automotive components. They are still part of the supply chain, but they have decided not to do that.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: That is not my question. My question is: were they advised that they could apply for support through ministerial discretion under the terms of the act?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: I cannot give you a definite answer that they would definitely apply.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: You can take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: I can take that on notice.</p>	Page 122 26.2.15		
AI-31	Carr	AusIndustry Business Services	ATS National Interest Provisions	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What advice are you providing, or do you have a program of advising the 122 participants in the scheme of their entitlements under the scheme, including the provisions for transitional arrangements under the scheme?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: I am not sure I understand your question.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Are you telling them that they can apply for discretionary payments if they fall below the thresholds?</p>	Page 123 26.2.15		

				<p>Mr Sexton: You are referring to continuing registration under the scheme under national interest provisions?</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Sexton: The industry is well aware of those provisions. They have been there since the beginning, and there are a number of applications for registration in the national interest from a number of companies for 2015, but not from those four.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: So there are a number of applications in. How many?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: There are three applications for registration in the national interest—that is, new registrations—and there are four applications seeking to continue registration in the national interest.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I see. These are three new entrants to the scheme? That is encouraging. Which states are they in?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: I do not have that information.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Can you take that on notice? These are not people that have registered before?</p> <p>Mr Sexton: That is correct.</p>			
AI-32	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy Division	FAPM recommendations	<p>Senator KIM CARR: What FAPM recommends to the committee is the abolition of the five per cent automotive sales cap, quarterly payments of ATS entitlements and allowance of all R&D performed in Australia to be eligible for funding under ATS, not just products sold in the domestic market. Which of those measures could be done by regulation?</p> <p>Mr Cheswick: I am not sure, but I could take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Obviously, if it is your opinion that it cannot be done by regulation, would it require a legislative amendment?</p> <p>Mr Cheswick: We will provide a comprehensive answer.</p>	Page 123 26.2.15		
AI-33	Xenophon	Sectoral Growth Policy	Automotive Manufacturing – supply-chain firms	<p>Senator XENOPHON: If these questions have already been asked by Senator Carr, then I apologise, and you can indicate that. In answers to my questions on notice from the supplementary budget estimates from last year, it was indicated that the department had assessed the number of supply-chain firms that may be affected by the closure of automotive manufacturing in Australia. Can the department advise the number of supply-chain firms and the overall number of employees affected by that?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I think we did, on the overall number of employees affected.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Would you like to take that on notice? I am happy for you to do so.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We did make reference to the supply-chain companies earlier in terms of numbers.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: But it would be good to get an idea of how</p>	Page 125 26.2.15		

				many employees are involved in that. Senator Ronaldson: We will take that on notice.			
AI-34	Xenophon	Sectoral Growth Policy	Automotive job losses	Senator XENOPHON: In the same set of answers the department indicated that whilst it had undertaken modelling on the number of predicted direct automotive job losses it had not undertaken any modelling on predicted job losses in the wider community. Will that be undertaken at all, in terms of the flow-through effects of the job losses? Ms Chesworth: Again, perhaps we could just go back and check what work has been done on that. We have of course had the Productivity Commission report, which came out at a figure of around \$30,000. And there was another report that I believe came from an academic in South Australia which had a much higher figure. Senator XENOPHON: That is Professor Spoehr. Mr Chesworth: That is right. There are a couple of methodologies around, but perhaps I could go and check to see whether there has been any work done and then get back to you on that.	Page 125 26.2.15		
AI-35	Xenophon	Sectoral Growth Policy	Automotive Transformation Scheme	Senator XENOPHON: That is not the question I was going to ask. In respect of the scheme overall, has the department done any modelling or analysis or provided any advice about the scheme being rejigged if there were likely to be new entrants? In other words, have you been asked to provide any advice, modelling or any other work in respect to any changes to the scheme that may occur if there were, for instance, new entrants? Has any consideration been given to taking away some of the scheme funds from the existing OEMs? Mr Chesworth: I am limited in what I can say because it falls into the area of policy advice. But I am not aware of anything in particular. The government's policy is to maintain the arrangements, particularly in relation to the ATS, because that is the best way to provide some certainty for the inevitable transition that is going to occur. Senator XENOPHON: I am not asking you for policy advice; I am asking whether the department has provided—not the nature of the advice, not the content of the advice—any advice in respect of alternative scenarios for how the scheme would operate, scenarios that are substantially different from how the scheme is operating now. Mr Chesworth: I am not aware of it. We will go back and check. If I have to get back to you, I will do so.	Pages 125 and 126 26.2.15		
AI-36	Ketter	Energy	Gas Reservation Policies in WA and QLD	Senator KETTER: Thank you for that. Can I just ask whether the department has assessed the effectiveness or lack thereof of gas reservation policies in Western Australia and Queensland.	Page 130 26.2.15 ANSWERED	n/a	n/a

				<p>Mr Locke: So the department looked at reservation policies in the context of the east coast gas market study, and there is an annex to that report that talks about reservation policies—some international experience and some of the experience in Western Australia and Queensland. In short, the summary of that work suggested that there are very few countries that have a pure reservation policy—probably only Egypt and Indonesia from our research. There are a number of countries that have state entities involved in gas markets that have an influence on domestic gas supply like Algeria, Qatar, Malaysia, Norway, and Russia, but there are very few examples of pure reservation policy.</p> <p>Our assessment was the key issue that you were chasing in the east coast gas market was bringing on supply. The concern, which we found in looking at the policy application in other countries, is that having these kinds of interventions in markets was potentially a negative for bringing on supply, particularly if you replicated those in the east coast gas market.</p> <p>Senator KETTER: Thank you for that. Is it possible for those assessments to be provided to the committee?</p> <p>Mr Locke: Yes, certainly. They are already part of the public report that was attached to the east coast gas market study released in January.</p>	AT THE HEARING		
AI-37	Ketter	Energy	ACIL Allen – Stakeholder Panel	<p>Senator KETTER: I would like to move onto the subject of energy efficiency and in particular the Commercial Building Disclosure program. Could you update the committee on what the goal is of the independent review of the CBD program being undertaken by ACIL Allen?</p> <p>Ms Helen Bennett: You are correct: ACIL Allen is undertaking an independent review of the Commercial Building Disclosure program. The terms of reference are available on the CBD website, but basically the review assesses the objectives of the program—whether the objectives are clear and remain relevant, whether the CBD program is the most effective and appropriate mechanism to achieve the objectives, and the effectiveness of the program in terms of promoting energy efficiency. It also looks at the interaction of the program with the Emissions Reduction Fund, and they are sort of the main terms of reference in terms of what it will assess. The review is expected to provide recommendations in relation to the merits of continuing the program, the lessons learnt for the possible extension of mandatory disclosure to other building types, the options for its future funding—including cost recovery if appropriate—the most appropriate governance framework, and also the potential improvements to the operation of the program.</p>	Page 132 26.2.15		

				<p>Senator KETTER: How much is the review costing?</p> <p>Ms Helen Bennett: The review has cost just under \$180,000. I can give you the exact number: it is \$176,963.</p> <p>Senator KETTER: Thank you very much. And how was the contract awarded to ACIL Allen. Were there any other companies considered for the review?</p> <p>Ms Helen Bennett: There were. We have a panel, we have a building energy efficiency panel that the department administers. From memory, we went from approximately six or seven consultants who we felt had the appropriate skills, and ACIL Allen was selected after I think we received quotes from about four of those six or seven that we went to.</p> <p>Senator KETTER: And how many stakeholders participated in the November public sessions?</p> <p>Ms Helen Bennett: I do not have the details in front of me. From memory there were around 30 in the Sydney session, and the Melbourne one was a little smaller: I think it was around 15. I could take the exact numbers on notice.</p>			
AI-38	Ketter	Energy	Australian Energy Market	<p>Senator KETTER: Are you able—and you might want to take this on notice—to tell us what has been the contribution of energy efficiency to the Australian energy market year on year since 2009?</p> <p>Ms Helen Bennett: I think I will definitely have to take that on notice.</p>	Page 133 26.2.15		
AI-39	Xenophon	Anti-Dumping Commission	Steel Pipe exporter from South Korea	<p>Senator XENOPHON: Sure. So, in review 266 concerning a steel pipe and tube exporter from South Korea—I do not think it would be from North Korea!—you have concluded that an exporter previously found to be dumping is now no longer dumping, because that is what their financial information tells you. Are you familiar with that case?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: I do not have that case detail in front of me.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Maybe you could take it on notice?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: Yes, sure.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: The concern that has been expressed to me is that the financial information, given the way the system works, has not been tested or verified. Is that right?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: I will take it on notice and come back to you in terms of the approach we took on that particular matter.</p>	Page 140 26.2.15		
AI-40	Ketter	Anti-Dumping Commission	Circumvention of Anti-Dumping Laws	<p>Senator KETTER: Okay. There were a series of statistics provided by the department as a result of questions on notice from the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Industry, and these go to the issue of circumvention of antidumping laws. I have been asked to seek an update on those very useful statistics that were provided on that last occasion.</p> <p>Mr Trotman: I do not have those statistics with me, Senator, but I</p>	Page 142 26.2.15		

				<p>am happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator KETTER: It goes to the number of antidumping cases received and various outcomes under that heading. The statistics go up to 30 September last year, so we are seeking an update on those.</p> <p>Mr Seymour: I will provide that information, if you like.</p> <p>Senator KETTER: Beg your pardon?</p> <p>Mr Seymour: I can take it on notice and provide the information.</p>			
AI-41	Ketter	Sectoral Growth Policy	Australian Industry Participation Plans	<p>Senator KETTER: Thank you very much for that. My final question is in relation to Australian industry participation plans, and I asked questions at the last round of estimates—question SI-67, I think it is—in relation to a particular case involving a question from Senator Carr. This was a situation where the department had written to approximately 40 major project proponents who had been identified as possibly having obligations under the act. We received a response back advising:</p> <p>The ... Authority wrote to 34 major project proponents responsible for 40 projects that were identified as possibly having obligations under the Australian Jobs Act 2013 ...</p> <p>And you listed those for us. In your answer, you also advised: There are 24 projects which are likely to have obligations under the Act and these will continue to be monitored to ensure that an Australian Industry Participation plan is submitted at an appropriate time.</p> <p>So I am just seeking an update on that.</p> <p>Mr Chesworth: The AIP Authority essentially conducts, under the auspices of the Jobs Act, a bit of a watching brief, so that question on notice would have been at a particular point in time. We had those three categories and there was follow-up, where required, but I do not have the figures with me at the moment. I suspect that those numbers have probably changed in the intervening period and I would be happy to provide you with some further detail on that.</p>	Page 142-143 26.2.15		
AI-42	Wright	NOPSEMA	Review of NOPSEMA's compliance	<p>It has been announced that an independent review of NOPSEMA's compliance with the endorsed program under the streamlined arrangements will soon commence.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Will the review consider if NOPSEMA has met a level of equivalency with the EPBC process? b. Will the review consider if exploration should be included in the Offshore Project Proposals (OPP) process in the future? c. Will there be an opportunity for stakeholder comment on the review before it is completed? 	Written Question 5.3.15		

AI-43	Wright	NOPSEMA	NOPSEMA – Transparency	<p>NOPSEMA's latest newsletter highlights that enhancements to NOPSEMA's Environment Plan submissions and summaries web page will increase the accessibility and transparency of information about petroleum activities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What will these enhancements entail? On what basis are these enhancements being made? How is NOPSEMA assisting members of the public to engage in the public consultation stage more fully? Will the 12 months of consultation process under NOPSEMA be subject to review? 	Written Question 5.3.15		
AI-44	Wright	NOPSEMA	Environmental performance standards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many enquiries and complaints did NOPSEMA receive in 2014 which related to poor consultation practices by titleholders? Can NOSPEMA point to any instance where a temporary sanction has been placed on a company for failing to comply with environmental performance or consultation standards? Can NOSPEMA point to any instance where a permanent sanction has been placed on a company for failing to comply with environmental performance or consultation standards? Does your model remain one of industry education? How does NOPSEMA ensure feedback and comments from stakeholders are taken into consideration? 	Written Question 5.3.15		
AI-45	Wright	NOPSEMA	Scientific merit and objectivity of NOPSEMA's assessments	<p>NOSPEMA recently stated (Regulator 5/2014, p. 11) that it impartially assesses Environment Plans in accordance with acceptance criteria designed to focus NOPSEMA's decision making on 'scientific merit'. Yet four Environment Plans approved by NOPSEMA will each operate within 100-150km of key Australian sea lion foraging habitats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Nerites Season 2 Multi Client 3D Marine Seismic Survey, TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company Pty Ltd Region: Ceduna sub-basin South Australia; 190km west of Eyre Peninsula; 270km sw from Ceduna; 180km from mainland coastline; water depths ~750-3500m; total survey size approx 22,000skm. Accepted: 23/10/2014 Ceduna Multi-Client 3D Marine Seismic Survey, PGS Australia Pty Ltd Region: Survey area covers approx 13,800skm and is located 180km from mainland SA, 475km west of Port Lincoln and 295km south-west of Ceduna in the Bight Basin, Ceduna Sub-basin Accepted: 23/09/2014 Lightning 3D Marine Seismic Survey Environment Plan, Bight Petroleum Pty Ltd Region: The Lightning MSS area is 	Written Question 5.3.15		

				<p>located approximately 104km west of Kangaroo Island and 68km south of Cape Carnot (Eyre Peninsula) Accepted: 06/06/2014</p> <p>4) Nerites Multi Client 3D Marine Seismic Survey, TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company Pty Ltd Region: Great Australian Bight Accepted: 07/01/2014</p> <p>In a best case scenario, at 100km, it could be expected that a 230db (re water) source may have reduced by 50db (re water), bringing the sound intensity to levels that will still be significant enough to cause strong behavioural responses in Australian sea lion (<i>Neophoca cinerea</i>).</p> <p>In considering protected species that are Matters of National Environmental Significance: Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, and based on the information provided, not-for-profit organisation Wild Migration has assessed that any offshore seismic surveys carried out within 150km of the feeding habitat of Australian sea lion have a high risk of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) “reducing the area of occupancy” and “adversely affecting habitat critical to the survival” of The Australian sea lion; b) “disrupting the breeding cycle” of The Australian sea lion; c) “modifying an area of important habitat” and “disrupt the lifecycle (feeding)” of The Australian sea lion; and d) “disturbing an important or substantial area of habitat such that an adverse impact results” within the Bunda, Nuyts, Eyre and Kangaroo Island Regions. <p>The South West Marine Bioregional Plans directs that “actions with a real chance or possibility of increasing the ambient noise levels within female [Australian sea lion] foraging areas to a level that might result in site avoidance or other physiological or behavioural responses” have a high risk of a significant impact on this species. All attempts should be made to avoid biologically important areas, particularly waters surrounding breeding colonies and foraging areas.</p> <p>Yet, all four of these proposals have been approved with erroneous and at times missing information about this EPBC listed species. Sound intensity levels transmitted into sea lion foraging habitat should not be approved in excess of 160db (re water). None of these plans will monitor sea lion activity or sound intensity levels within the sea lion habitat.</p>			
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				Given the above information, can NOPSEMA demonstrate the scientific merit of the Environment Plan acceptance in these four cases?			
AI-46	Ketter	Geoscience	Geoscience – Staffing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2014-15 budget papers state that Geoscience Australia are reducing from 716 staff in 2013-14 to 620 staff in 2014-15. Has this reduction target been met? 2. If so, how is it been met? 3. How many voluntary redundancies? 4. How many compulsory redundancies? 5. What has that reduction meant to the workload of the agency? 6. Given the important role of Geoscience Australia in providing pre-competitive geoscience information to address greenfield exploration challenges, do you anticipate less exploration activity from reduced Geoscience Australia activity in this area? 7. Were Geoscience Australia consulted on the Government’s Exploration Development Incentive (EDI) scheme? 	Written Question 4.3.15		
AI-47	Ketter	AusIndustry Business Services	Energy Programs - Grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can the Department please provide a brief overview of the Energy Programs currently being administered by the Department particularly any discretionary grants programs? 2. Can the Department provide a breakdown of funding for these programs? How much has been allocated and how much has been spent. 	Written Question 4.3.15		
AI-48	Ketter	Energy	Ethanol Production	<p>Regarding Ethanol:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department done any analysis of what the costs of scrapping the Ethanol Production Grants will be? 2. Will that analysis be made public? 	Written Question 4.3.15		
AI-49	Ketter	Energy	Australian Energy Regulator	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What changes have enabled the AER to deliver its draft determinations which could see significantly reduced network charges for consumers? 2. When were these changes made? 3. I understand that Energy Consumers Australia has now been formed. Can you please provide an update on this body? 4. What will its initial focus be, how often will it meet and what resources have been provided to it? 	Written Question 4.3.15		
AI-50	Conroy	AusIndustry – Business Services	Energy Programs - Grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you please provide a brief overview of the Energy Programs currently being administered by the Department particularly any discretionary grants programs? 2. Can you provide a breakdown of funding for these programs? How much has been allocated and how much has been spent? 	Written Question 6.3.15 PLEASE REFER TO AI-47		

AI-51	Conroy	Energy	Energy Programs	<p>Ethanol:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the Department done any analysis of what the scrapping of the Ethanol Production Grants will be? 2. Will that analysis be made public? Can it be provided to the committee? 	<p>Written Question 6.3.15 PLEASE REFER TO AI-48</p>		
AI-52	Conroy	Energy	AER Draft Determinations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you please talk me through the changes that have enabled the AER to deliver its draft determinations which could see significantly reduced network charges for consumers? 2. When were these changes made? 3. I understand that Energy Consumers Australia has now been formed. Can you please provide an update on this body? 4. What its initial focus will be, how often will it meet and what resources have been provided to it? 	<p>Written Question 6.3.15 PLEASE REFER TO AI-49</p>		
AI-53	Leyonhjelm	ANSTO	Submarines	Does Australia have the expertise to maintain nuclear powered submarines	<p>Written Question 6.3.15</p>		
AI-54	Leyonhjelm	ANSTO	Nuclear Waste	Do any private companies here or overseas manage nuclear waste? Is there a reason why a private company could not manage Australia's waste?	<p>Written Question 6.3.15</p>		
AI-55	Whish-Wilson	CSIRO	CSIRO - Tasmanian Office	<p>In respect of the CSIRO's Tasmanian office(s), can the department provide an update on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number redundancies that have been offered; 2. The number of staff that will be remaining if all of these redundancies were to be accepted; and 3. •The number of redundancies that have been accepted. 	<p>Written Question 6.3.15</p>		
AI-56	Whish-Wilson	Sectoral Growth Policy	Tasmanian Major Projects Approval Agency (TMPPA)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many prospective tourism projects have been referred to TMPAA? 2. What is the value of prospective tourism projects that have been referred to TMPAA? 3. How many tourism projects have been approved by TMPAA? 4. What is the value of tourism projects that have been approved by TMPAA? 5. What is the projected economic impact of the tourism projects that have been approved by TMPAA to the Tasmanian economy? 	<p>Written Questions 6.3.15</p>		
AI-57	Carr	ANSTO	SA Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission	What is ANSTO's expected involvement in supporting or providing evidence to South Australian Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission?	<p>Written Question 11.3.15</p>		
AI-58	Carr	ANSTO	Synchrotron	If possible, please provide an update on the status of Synchrotron	<p>Written</p>		

			Funding	funding	Question 11.3.15		
AI-59	Carr	CSIRO	Funding Agreement	What is the current status of negotiations with the Government on the development of CSIRO's next quadrennial funding agreement?	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-60	Carr	CSIRO	NCRIS	In relation to NCRIS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many NCRIS capabilities and facilities is CSIRO involved with? 2. What would be the financial impact on CSIRO if it had to take over support for the NCRIS facilities it hosts or is closely involved with? 3. What would be the financial impact on CSIRO if the NCRIS facilities it is involved with were wound down when the current funding expires at the end of June 2015? 4. How many CSIRO research projects would be disrupted if NCRIS facilities were to close? Please describe the potential impact on CSIRO science. 5. What would the impact be on data continuity for CSIRO's activities in marine, atmospheric and climate science if the relevant NCRIS facilities were to close? 6. If such facilities were to shut down, would Australian researchers retain access to international partner facilities? Would that access come at a cost? If so, what is the estimated cost for CSIRO? 7. What would the impact be on CSIRO's international partnerships if the NCRIS facilities it is associated with were to shut down? 	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-61	Carr	CSIRO	Development of Strategy for 2015-2025	In relation to the development of CSIRO's decadal strategy for 2015-2025: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the current status of this strategy? 2. Has the Minister had any involvement in the development of the strategy to date? 3. Is the strategy likely to result in a further reduction in the total number of CSIRO sites? 4. How and when are CSIRO staff going to be consulted? 	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-62	Carr	CSIRO	Bonus System for Executives	In relation to CSIRO's bonus system under its remuneration arrangements for Executives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the timing on bonuses – when are performances assessed and bonuses paid? 2. On what basis are bonuses to CSIRO Executives paid? What kinds of performance criteria are considered? 3. How are bonus amounts determined? 4. If possible, please provide details of the amounts of bonuses paid 	Written Question 11.3.15		

				<p>(without identifying individuals)?</p> <p>5. Did all of the senior executive team receive bonuses at the end of the last performance assessment period?</p> <p>6. Given that it is estimated CSIRO will have lost nearly one in five staff positions over the two years to the end of 2014-15, is there an expectation that executive bonuses will be put on hold this year?</p>			
AI-63	Carr	Corporate	Information on Program Costings	<p>Please update the attached table and provide it in excel format, responding to the following questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For the National Measurement Institute please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For the Australia-China Science and Research Fund please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For the International Education and Training (Australia-India Strategic Research Fund) please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For Science for Australia's Future please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For the Square Kilometre Array Radio Telescope Project please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For the Cooperative Research Centres please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of ongoing CRCs ○ 2008-2018 Number of new CRCs ○ For the Innovation Investment Fund please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 number of customers assisted / payments administered 	<p>Written Question 11.3.15 PROVIDED TO DEPT. ON 26.2.15</p>		

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2018 value of funds invested by licensed fund managers ○ For Commercialisation Australia please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 number of grants awarded / payments administered (total) ○ 2008-2018 number of Proof of Concept grants awarded ○ 2008-2018 number of Early Stage Commercialisation grants awarded ○ For the R&D Tax Incentive please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of registrations (total) ○ 2008-2018 Number of registrations for 45 per cent refundable offset ○ 2008-2018 Number of registrations for 40 per cent non-refundable offset ○ 2008-2018 Number of firms that sought pre-approvals/advanced confirmation sought from AusIndustry for eligible activities in future years ○ 2008-2018 Percentage of registrations from manufacturing firms ○ For Enterprise Connect please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of client services provided / customers assisted ○ 2008-2018 Number of business reviews delivered ○ 2008-2018 Number of Tailored Advisory Service (TAS) grants awarded ○ For the Researchers in Business program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of RiB placements / researchers engaged ○ 2008-2018 Number of businesses assisted ○ For Expediting Clinical Trial Reform in Australia please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual 			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For Industry Innovation Precincts please provide the total cost of the program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For Industry Growth Centres please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For Buy Australian at Home and Abroad Initiative please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For the Australian Industry Participation measures please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of AIP plans under the Australian Jobs Act 2013 ○ 2008-2018 Number of AIP plans for Commonwealth procurement processes ○ For the TCF Investment and Innovation Programs please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of customers assisted ○ 2008-2018 Number of BIC grants awarded ○ 2008-2018 Number of TCF Small Business grants awarded ○ For the Textile Clothing and Footwear - Strategic Capability Program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of grants awarded ○ For the Textile Clothing and Footwear - Structural Adjustment Program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed 			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For the Geelong Region Innovation and Investment Fund please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of grants awarded ○ 2008-2018 Number of participants ○ For the Melbourne's North Innovation and Investment Fund please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of grants awarded ○ 2008-2018 Number of participants ○ For the Steel Transformation Plan please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ For the Automotive Transformation Scheme please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2018 Number of registrations ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual (capped and uncapped) ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed (capped and uncapped) ○ 2008-2018 Total ATS funds committed ○ 2008-2018 ATS Contingent Reserve funding ○ For the Automotive New Markets Program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2018 Number of grants awarded ○ For the Entrepreneurs' Infrastructure Program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2013-2018 No. of business evaluations (actual & projected) ○ 2013-2018 No. of evaluation growth grants (actual & projected) ○ 2013-2018 No. of research connections services (actual & projected) ○ For the Growth Fund please provide the total cost of the program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013-2018 Budget estimate and committed 			
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For the Automotive Diversification Fund please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2013-2018 number of grants awarded (actual and projected) ○ For the Automotive Industry Structural Adjustment Program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2008-2014 Budget estimate and actual ○ 2014-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2008-2014 Number of workers who have accessed services (actual and projected) ○ For the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2013-2018 Number of grants awarded (actual and projected) ○ For the Regional Infrastructure Program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2013-2018 Number of grants awarded (actual and projected) ○ For the Skills and Training initiative please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2013-2018 Number of workers who have accessed services (actual and projected) ○ For the Manufacturing Transition Grants Program please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013-2018 Budget estimate and committed ○ 2013-2018 Number of grants awarded (actual and projected) 			
AI-64	Carr	Corporate	Abolition of Agencies and Working Groups	<p>Referring to reports in the Weekend Australian on 13 December 2014 that 175 agencies and working groups were being abolished in order to save \$500 million:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many of the abolished agencies and/or working groups fell under the remit of the Department of Industry & Science? 2. What is the sum total of savings for the Department of Industry & Science associated with the abolition of these agencies and working groups? 	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-65	Carr	AusIndustry – Entrepreneur Development	R&D Tax Incentive	In relation to the R&D Tax Incentive, how many firms, on average, seek an advance finding from AusIndustry on an annual basis?	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-66	Carr	Science and Commercialisation	National Survey of Research	The Terms of Reference for this review provide a detailed timeline that includes consultation in the second half of 2014 and a report to	Written Question		

		Policy	Commercialisation Review	the Minister in early 2015. However, the discussion paper for the review was only released in December 2014: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the reason for this delay? 2. Please provide an updated timeline for the review. 3. What will the new timeline mean for the availability of the new survey instrument? 4. Will the delay affect the Department's capacity to complete its next biennial survey? If so, how? 	11.3.15		
AI-67	Carr	National Measurement Institute	Food Safety	In relation to food safety: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please explain NMI's role in Australia's food safety system. 2. In an article on the NMI website dated 17 February 2015, the organisation states "Yes NMI can test for Hepatitis A and Norovirus in foods such as frozen berries". However, on 27 February 2015, the CEO of Patties Food stated on Radio National Breakfast stated that Australia is not very well set up to test for Hepatitis A in food, and that the industry was working with NMI (among others) to resolve this issue but had not yet done so. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the reason for this discrepancy? b. Please describe NMI's role in responding to the frozen berries Hepatitis A incident. c. Has this incident led to changes in NMI's capabilities, contingency planning or forward work plan? d. Was any additional funding required to respond to this incident? If so, where was that funding drawn from? e. Is NMI involved in the current government review of food labelling and related matters? If so, in what way? 	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-68	Carr	National Measurement Institute	NMI Budget	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide a breakdown of NMI's budgeted funding over the forward estimates across its key programs and projects. 2. Has NMI's funding been affected by the Budget decisions of the current government? If so, please provide details of the impact over each year of the forward estimates. 	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-69	Carr	Science and Commercialisation Policy	Square Kilometre Array	Is there a critical date for the Australian Government to commit to the next phase of funding for the international project? If so, is the required funding already available in the forward estimates?	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-70	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Clinical Trials	What's the total funding pool for clinical trial reform that falls under the purview of the Department of Industry? Are there any plans to increase funding for clinical trial reforms?	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-71	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Automotive Industry	How many companies have been given permission to apply for registration as an Automotive Transformation Scheme (ATS) participant or to continue registration as an ATS participant in the	Written Question 11.3.15		

				national interest under the current Government? When was the last such exemption granted?			
AI-72	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Automotive Growth Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to the Automotive Growth Fund, when will the Government announce the first round of successful applicants for the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Programme? 2. In relation to the Automotive Growth Fund, the webpage for the Regional Infrastructure Programme states that the program “is expected to open in the coming months” and that “Further information...will be published shortly”. When was this notice first put on the website? 3. In relation to the Automotive Growth Fund, when will the Department provide guidelines and open applications for the Regional Infrastructure Programme? 4. In relation to the Automotive Growth Fund, and the Skills and Training Initiative, have Holden and Toyota being granted an FBT tax exemption for their contributions to the scheme? 5. In relation to the Automotive Growth Fund, please outline all the Department’s promotional and educational activities in relation to this fund, including the total budget for promotion, advertising and educational activities, the relevant AusTender reference numbers and methods (i.e. print advertising, seminars, websites billboards, television, radio etc.). 	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-73	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	TCF Industry	Why is the Department advising clothing manufacturers that the Clothing and Household Textile (Building Innovative Capability) scheme is closed to applicants for 2014-15 innovation grants when it remains a legislated entitlement?	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-74	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Buy Australian Program	How much funding did Labor in Government invest in the Buy Australian suite of programs? Has this funding been cut or reduced? If so, by how much? Please provide a table clearly identifying where funding reductions have been implemented against individual programs since the change of Government in September 2013.	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-75	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Australian Industry Participation	What’s the status of the review of Australian Industry Participation measures?	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-76	Carr	Portfolio Strategic Policy	Country of Origin Labelling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What’s the Department’s role in Country of Origin labelling? 2. In relation to the Hepatitis scare and frozen berries – how did this situation occur? What’s the Department role in addressing this issue? 	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-77	Carr	AusIndustry Business Services	Manufacturing Transition Grants Programme	1. In relation to the Manufacturing Transition Grants program, the Department’s response to a previous question on notice advised that the Department had received 77 applications to this program.	Written Question 11.3.15		

				<p>Is that the final number of applications received?</p> <p>2. It has been almost two years since the Manufacturing Transition Grants program was first announced by the Coalition before the 2013 Federal Election. When will successful projects be announced?</p>			
AI-78	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Growth Centres	<p>1. What was the process for selecting Chairs and Independent Members of the Growth Centres Advisory Committee? Were the positions advertised?</p> <p>2. In relation to the Growth Centres Advisory Committee:</p> <p>a. Is there a Charter for the Committee or Terms of Reference?</p> <p>b. What is the role of the Committee?</p> <p>c. Are Chairs and committee members paid positions?</p> <p>d. Is there a set term for Chairs and/or committee members?</p> <p>3. What is the application process for firms wanting to form a Growth Centre? Is it a competitive process? If so, how are applications being assessed and when will firms be notified of the outcomes?</p> <p>4. How many applications has the Department received to date for the Growth Centres initiative?</p> <p>5. What is the primary purpose of the Growth Centres? Will the centres deliver projects and produce reports?</p>	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-79	Carr	AusIndustry – Entrepreneur Development	Entrepreneur Infrastructure Program	<p>1. What is the total amount of funding that has been delivered to date to SMEs under the various streams of the Entrepreneurs Infrastructure Program?</p> <p>2. What is the total number of business services that have been delivered to date to SMEs under the various streams of the Entrepreneurs Infrastructure Program?</p>	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-80	Carr	IP Australia	Seminars	<p>In relation to IP Australia: in what states and territories has IP Australia conducted seminars for the small to medium business enterprise sector in 2013, 2014 and planned for 2015? Is IP Australia conducting seminars for the small to medium business enterprise sector in Western Australia? If so, please outline the nature and timing of these seminars and activities</p>	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-81	Carr	IP Australia	Staffing	<p>How many IP Australia staff providing face-to-face contact to the small and medium enterprise sector:</p> <p>1. Have been made redundant in the last 12 months or are to be made redundant in the foreseeable future?</p> <p>2. Have retired and have not been replaced in the last two years?</p> <p>3. How much money will be saved as a result of these redundancies or reduction in staff on a year-by-year basis over the current forward estimates?</p> <p>4. How does IP Australia intend to provide face-to-face services directly to the small to medium enterprise sector in their local</p>	Written Question 11.3.15		

				communities following cuts to personnel?			
AI-82	Carr	Sectoral Growth Policy	Non-Compliant Building Products	In relation to non-compliant building products, is this still a priority for the Coalition Government? If so, what work is being undertaken by the Department on this issue? Please outline in detail the nature of the Department's work, including any stakeholder consultations.	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-83	Carr	Portfolio Strategic Policy	Anti-Dumping Policy	<p>With regard to the Government's anti-dumping policy announced in 15 Dec 2014:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where it says "The Minister will direct the Anti-Dumping Commissioner that, wherever possible, provisional measures be imposed at day 60 of an investigation." – would you expect that direction would be in the form of a formal ministerial direction? 2. Re the policies to implement a 'more rigorous approach to enforcing the deadline for submissions' and that "the Anti-Dumping Commissioner will only agree to extensions when necessary and reasonable" - will some guidance on the circumstances of what is necessary and reasonable be subject to formal ministerial direction or will it be at the discretion of the Commissioner or officer in charge of an investigation? What change does this policy entail in approach from previous practice, practically speaking? 3. Where it says "the Minister will give a direction to the Anti-Dumping Commissioner on the circumstances in which the Minister would be satisfied that an exporter is uncooperative" - Will this be by a formal Ministerial direction? Will it be a general direction or will it be direction on a case by case basis? 4. Where it says "The Government will take a stronger stance in World Trade Organization forums on the transparency of foreign subsidies, which will assist in ensuring that Australian producers and exporters are able to compete fairly" – Is this the extent of the Government's plans in implementing its election commitment, which was to "Strengthen enforcement of the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures"? 	Written Question 11.3.15		
AI-84	Carr	Portfolio Strategic Policy	International Trade Remedies Advisory Service	<p>With regard to announcement that the Government is currently developing a new International Trade Remedies Advisory Service, which will commence in early 2015:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you provide an update- has the program commenced? 2. Was there any gap in terms of the commencement of this program and the ceasing of the program which was being delivered to the AiG? 3. Will the service be delivered by Department of Industry or the Anti-dumping Commission? 	Written Question 11.3.15		

				<p>4. What is the funding for the service in comparison to the previous funding provided to the AiG for this service?</p> <p>5. Has the former International Trade Remedies Advisor who was seconded with the AiG being retained through this process? If not, why not?</p>			
AI-85	Carr	Portfolio Strategic Policy	Report – International Trade Remedies Advisory Service	<p>During Budget Estimates in June 2014, Mr Seymour stated that the Anti-Dumping Commission “works very effectively with the Ai Group that administers the grant from the Australian government for the International Trade Remedies Advisor, and the ITRA, as it is referred to, has been a very useful mechanism inside the Ai Group for pulling together SME applications for dumping and duty assessment activity under the Australian antidumping system.” Ms Beauchamp confirmed that the department undertook an evaluation of the service, as per the contract obligation but that the evaluation had not, at that point being made public and that she did not have an anticipated date for publication?</p> <p>1. Has the report been made public? If not, why not?</p> <p>2. Did the evaluation inform the Government’s changes to the International Trade Remedies Advisory Service?</p>	Written Question 11.3.15		