

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016 - 2017 Additional Estimates
2 March 2017

AGENCY: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: CSIRO Research into Fugitive Emissions

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 2 March 2017, page 68)

QUESTION No.: AI-14

Senator LUDLAM: Can you provide a quick update for us on the Department of the Environment and Energy funded CSIRO research into fugitive emissions, which I think was intended to help us assess the true climate impact of CSG. I do not know whether this would be your bag or not.

Dr Mayfield: I would have to you take that on notice.

Senator LUDLAM: I just wanted to know how much money is left in the pot. My understanding was that—and, again, correct me if this is incorrect—it was \$190,000 two years ago. Is any of that left in the tin?

Dr Mayfield: I am not familiar with that, so I will have to take it on notice.

ANSWER

CSIRO and the federal government have been collaborating on a two phase project to measure fugitive methane emissions from a range of CSG production wells. The study is intended to lead to the development of suitable Australian-specific methods for monitoring and quantifying fugitive emissions from the CSG industry.

Phase 1 is complete with the report released in June 2014. Field work for phase 2 was completed in March, 2016.

The final version of the phase 2 report, entitled ‘Methane Emissions from CSG Well Completion Activities’, was completed and delivered to the Department of Environment and Energy in January 2017.

Phase 2 of the Department of the Environment and Energy project was funded to a total of \$190,000 in 2015. All project funds were expended.