

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

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Australian Industry Group report issued 28 February 2017

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: AI-152

In relation to the Australian Industry Group report issued 28 February 2017, Energy Shock: No Gas, No Power, No Future, which warns that energy-intensive manufacturers will be paying up to \$4 billion more per year on their energy bills:

- a. What is the Department's assessment of this report?
- b. Has the Department and/or Minister's office held direct discussions on energy security with manufacturers or industry groups? If so, please provide a summary of manufacturing stakeholder meetings on energy costs.

ANSWER

- a. The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science considers that the Australian Industry Group's report, Energy Shock: No Gas, No Power, No Future, sets out the concerns of its member companies about increased gas and electricity prices those companies experienced in 2016 and the potential for ongoing energy price increases in 2017.
- b. The Department regularly meets with manufacturing companies and industry groups to understand their views on policy issues relevant to the portfolio. Understanding Australian industry perspectives assists the Department to develop policies that can contribute to positive outcomes for industry and the economy as a whole.

The Department is unable to provide advice on any direct discussions on energy security the Minister or his office may have held with manufacturing companies or industry groups.