

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 Governance Arrangements

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 2 March 2017, page 70)

QUESTION No.: AI-16

Senator LUDLAM: Given that it is industry partly funding your research and directing its priorities, how do you deal—not with the appearance of conflict of interest—with the reality that industry probably does not want the work that it is funding to conclude that industry is, in fact, dirtier than coal. What do you do when your findings are inconvenient to the people who are funding the work?

Dr Mayfield: CSIRO is employed to do the science on the work. We report the science facts that we measure and identify. There is no impediment to that. There are very rigorous governance arrangements around the GISERA work, and I am very confident that those arrangements are very robust.

Senator LUDLAM: We are out of time. If you could then, on notice, provide us with what those governance arrangements are, if they are not already in the public domain.

Dr Mayfield: We would be happy to.

ANSWER

The GISERA governance arrangements have been carefully designed to ensure independence of all research. Details of the governance arrangements are available publicly on the GISERA web site at <https://gisera.org.au/research-independence/>.