

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

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**AGENCY:** AUSTRALIAN NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION

**TOPIC:** Synchrotron

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 2 March 2017, page 52-53)

**QUESTION No.:** AI-2

Senator KIM CARR: In regard to the synchrotron, how much does ANSTO need to raise to cover the cost of the new beamlines?

Dr Paterson: The evaluation of the seven beamlines which have been agreed with the community is \$114 million. We think that within that envelope, depending on how technology is developed, we might be able to secure an eighth beamline, so that is the quantum. The process, as you may recall, is that we will go to the community for that funding—state governments, the New Zealand government, universities, medical research institutes and publicly funded research agencies.

Senator KIM CARR: What are the time lines in that?

Dr Paterson: We would need to secure commitments to the full quantum by July next year but we are hoping that we can make some earlier announcements based on earlier commitments.

Discussions in relation to those commitments have progressed in a series of meetings, and we are now formalising that process to request funding specifically from different institutions based on those discussions.

Senator KIM CARR: So how soon do you need to actually have that money? It has been put to me that you actually need to raise about \$20 million by 30 June?

Dr Paterson: I think it would be useful to secure that level of funding by that time but it is not absolutely necessary. It is a seven-year program, so the cash flow over the program will obviously be somewhat front-end loaded because of procurement requirements. It is intended to have those discussions to incentivise our community to make the commitments in a way that will meet the requirements of the program.

Senator KIM CARR: How many have actually committed to date?

Dr Paterson: In terms of formal written commitments, we do not have commitments at the moment but we have got some indicative commitments from, I think, six universities and one publicly financed research agency, and an indicative discussion has taken place with the New Zealand government.

Senator KIM CARR: Is that the extent of your consultations, the six universities?

Dr Paterson: My team has had other discussions. I think there has been a set of meetings that have been held with the Victorian government. I understand that most of the universities, which are significant users, will have had at least a face-to-face discussion to outline the scope of the program.

Senator KIM CARR: So how many additional universities are there, over the top of the six?

Dr Paterson: The top universities using the synchrotron include the group of 8 plus about six other universities that, because of the history of their involvement with synchrotron related techniques, are significant users.

Senator KIM CARR: Could you take on notice to name them?

Dr Paterson: We will provide a list.

Senator KIM CARR: Have you approached the CSIRO?

Dr Paterson: I will take that on notice. I am not sure if we have had a formal discussion at this point.

## ANSWER

In pursuing capital expansion funding for the Australian Synchrotron, ANSTO has consulted widely. As of 10 March, formal letters outlining the request and return on investment have been provided to 39 Australian universities, listed below. Face to face or telephone meetings have also taken place with the majority of these universities.

Australian Catholic University	Swinburne University
Australian National University	University of Adelaide
Bond University	University of Canberra
Central Queensland University	University of Melbourne
Charles Darwin University	University of New England
Charles Sturt University	University of New South Wales
Curtin University	University of Newcastle
Deakin University	University of Notre Dame Australia
Edith Cowan University	University of Queensland
Federation University	University of South Australia
Flinders University	University of Southern Queensland
Griffith University	University of Sydney
James Cook University	University of Tasmania
La Trobe University	University of Technology Sydney
Macquarie University	University of the Sunshine Coast
Monash University	University of Western Australia
Murdoch University	University of Western Sydney
Queensland University of Technology	University of Wollongong
RMIT University	Victoria University
Southern Cross University	

Additionally, ANSTO has met with a number of research agencies regarding the proposal, including CSIRO. Following this meeting, a formal letter outlining the proposal was sent to the CEO of CSIRO.