

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15
2-3 June 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Industrial Transformation Research Hub Scheme

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: BI-185

In relation to the Government's announcement of seven research hubs to be funded through the ARC's Industrial Transformation Research Hub Scheme (ITRP):

- a. Are any of the private sector firms that were previously signed up as core partners in the recently abolished Industry Innovation Precincts initiative involved in any of these new hubs?
- b. Was the Department of Industry consulted on the funding of the ITRP hubs?
- c. Does the Department maintain any oversight of ITRP funding or have any input on the selection of successful projects?

ANSWER

- a. No.
- b. Yes. As per agreement between the Hon Christopher Pyne, Minister for Education and the Hon Ian Macfarlane, Minister for Industry, the Department of Industry was consulted on the funding of the ITRP hubs.
- c. The Department of Industry does not maintain oversight of ITRP funding. Funding schemes are administered by the Australian Research Council (ARC), with funding agreements for the ITRP hubs held between the ARC and recipient organisations.