

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

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

**TOPIC:** Exploration Development Incentive Review

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 3 June 2014, page 39)

**QUESTION No.:** BI-64

**Senator WHISH-WILSON:** I have a question in relation to one of Senator Ruston's questions around the \$100 million mining exploration—the tax credit system that you talked about. How often will you evaluate the success of that? Having had a fair bit to do with mining exploration and the risks around that, some small companies especially are very good at mining shareholders over a long period of time. I would hate to see the same thing happen with taxpayers. How often are you—

**Senator Ronaldson:** Is this the EDI you are talking about?

**Senator WHISH-WILSON:** Yes.

**Senator Ronaldson:** My understanding is that it will be reviewed in 2016 and, subject to the outcome, may be extended for a further period, but they will review in 2016.

**Senator WHISH-WILSON:** Can you tell me what the KPIs would be on that review? Would it be the number of new exploration permits or drilling activity or—

**Senator Ronaldson:** I do not have that level of knowledge. I am happy to take it on—

**Senator WHISH-WILSON:** It is \$100 million so I was just interested in how you are going to judge the success of it.

**Senator Ronaldson:** I understand. I do not have that knowledge personally. I do not know whether the department do. If they have not, we will take it on notice and see if we can ask.

**Mr Hoffman:** I can give you a general answer but it might be best to take it on notice and we will give you the formal KPIs being established for the program.

**ANSWER**

The Department of Industry will monitor greenfields mineral exploration and the scheme from its commencement and will review the scheme, with the assistance of the Treasury, in 2016. Key performance indicators for the review will be finalised in conjunction with the legislative drafting.