

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

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Tasmanian Major Projects Agency

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: BI-90

In regards to Tasmanian Major Projects Agency:

1. Will it run as a fee for service system?
2. Where it will be located in Launceston?
3. Will it be an agency of the Department of Industry? If not which Department will it be part of?
4. Are there projects from 1 July that the agency will be working on?
5. Will the agency have a role in promoting the benefit of investing in Tasmania?
6. What review process is in place to determine the effectiveness of this office over the coming years?
7. How will the Agency work with the Tasmanian Government to ensure there isn't duplication of effort?

ANSWER

1. The Tasmanian Major Projects Approval Agency will not be charging fees for the services it provides.
2. The Agency will be located in Cornwall Square Transit, 12 -16 St John Street, Launceston.
3. The Tasmanian Major Projects Approval Agency will be part of the Department of Industry. It will not be a statutory body nor an incorporated entity, but instead run as a unit within the department.
4. The Agency will work with the Tasmanian Department of State Growth to identify likely candidates once the agency has been launched. Candidates may be current projects depending on the stage of existing approvals.
5. Austrade is the Australian Government's investment attraction body. The Tasmanian Major Project Approvals Agency will help investment ready proponents identify all the approvals they will need to obtain for investment to occur in Tasmania. The Agency may work with bodies such as Austrade on incoming investment missions if requested.
6. The Tasmanian Major Projects Approval Agency has funding until 30 June 2017, the following will be undertaken to determine the effectiveness of the Agency:

- A review into the efficacy of the Tasmanian Major Projects Approval Agency will be completed by 30 June 2016
 - A full evaluation of the Agency will be undertaken by the Department in line with the *Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.
 - The Chair of the Agency's Advisory Board will sit on the Joint Commonwealth and Tasmanian Economic Council, and will provide regular updates and status reports.
7. The Agency is working closely with the Tasmanian Government, including the Department of State Growth and the Office of the Coordinator-General. The Agency is arranging to co-locate with the Office of the Coordinator-General. It is likely a memorandum of understanding will be put in place to clearly articulate the separate roles and responsibilities of the Agency and the Office.