

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry and Science Portfolio
2015-16 Budget Estimates
3 and 4 June 2015

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Manufacturing Transition Programme

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 4 June 2015, page 63)

QUESTION No.: BI-56

Senator KIM CARR: We will come back to that. You have seen the article I have distributed—the report from the *Ranges Trader Mail*. The article talks about a recent visit by the minister for industry and Jason Wood MP to a manufacturer in Gembrook, Mountain Harvest Foods. It talks about a next generation manufacturing grants program and a manufacturing transition grants program and goes on to say that Mountain Harvest Foods hopes to double their employment in 18 months with the support of these government initiatives. Has the firm been awarded a grant under either of these schemes, or any other Commonwealth scheme?

Dr Byrne: I might just make a comment while the minister or other colleagues are coming to the table: the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program, which is part of the growth fund, has opened an application round, but the applications are still being assessed. So, in the case of the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Program, there was no decision of government in relation to any grants under that program. But for MTP I will pass to my colleague.

Ms Peterson: In relation to the manufacturing transition grants program, I cannot verify if this company was actually an applicant, but it is certainly not a successful recipient. But I can take on notice whether or not they made an application.

Senator KIM CARR: Thank you.

ANSWER

Mountain Harvest Foods Pty Ltd applied for grants under the Manufacturing Transition Programme and the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Programme. It was not awarded a grant under the Manufacturing Transition Programme. Funding decisions for the Next Generation Manufacturing Investment Programme are yet to be finalised. The department is not aware of any Commonwealth grants the company may have received.