

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2017 - 2018 Budget Estimates
31 May – 1 June 2017

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: CSIRO

TOPIC: AAHL Compliance regime

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: BI-112

What is the new compliance regime that AAHL will operate under?

ANSWER

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has updated the AAHL compliance requirements to be consistent with the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. These requirements continue to be monitored under an audit regime which rewards good compliance with a reduction in audits, and low compliance with increased audits and a resulting higher presence at a particular facility. Biosecurity Industry Participants (BIPs) such as CSIRO can apply for variations to requirements where it can be demonstrated that a facility is effectively managing the biocontainment risk through alternative engineering or procedural processes. This risk-based compliance process reflects the complex and unique containment features of a range of facilities including AAHL, allowing, where possible a more tailored, risk-matched way, rather than a one-size fits all regulatory compliance regime.