Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio 2017 - 2018 Budget Estimates 31 May – 1 June 2017

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Use of brown coal in Kawasaki Heavy Industries

REFERENCE: Questions on Notice (Hansard, 1 June 2017, page 100)

QUESTION No.: BI-53

Senator WATERS: I will take that up elsewhere. Do you know if the pilot phase is intending to use any CCS process, whether it is CarbonNet or any other?

Mr Cosgrave: There are discussions ongoing in terms of the carbon storage, but that is a matter between the proponents, Kawasaki, and the Victorian government, who leads on the CarbonNet project.

Senator WATERS: So you do not have any further details about that?

Mr B Wilson: I understand the basis of the pilot project, which is yet to be sanctioned—as Mr Cosgrave said, we are still in looking at front-end engineering and design, and after that a decision will be made on the pilot project. The intention is for that pilot project to sequester its emissions. Whether that is using CarbonNet or another alternative is yet to be decided.

Senator WATERS: Thank you for that clarification. Do you know how much brown coal will be used as part of that pilot project?

Mr Cosgrave: Off the top of my head, no. It is not a large amount. The pilot is a very small-scale project. I can take that on notice.

Senator WATERS: Likewise, do you know how much is intended to be used if it reaches commercial scale?

Mr Cosgrave: I will take that on notice.

ANSWER

Pilot Plant

160 tonnes total of Victorian lignite for the Australian pilot plant gasifier.

200 tonnes total of Victorian lignite for the gasifier in Japan.

Commercial Plant

The commercial plant will use approximately 20 tonnes of Victorian lignite per tonne of hydrogen produced. The scale of hydrogen production of the proposed commercial plant will be a commercial decision for the project proponents, and has not yet been decided.