

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-15
23 October 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Competitiveness Agenda

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 23 October 2014, page 92)

QUESTION No.: SI-42

Senator KIM CARR: So, the board met on 17 September. Did it discuss the competitiveness agenda then?

Mr Murfett: My understanding would be that there was an item on the competitiveness agenda and we would have provided a general overview of the agenda.

Senator KIM CARR: When was the previous meeting?

Ms Peterson: It was 6 August.

Senator KIM CARR: I take it that the board still has its full membership?

Ms Peterson: At the moment there are a number of vacancies on the board. There are currently nine members, including the ex officio, and six vacancies.

Senator KIM CARR: Six?

Ms Peterson: That is correct.

Senator KIM CARR: Why are there six vacancies?

Senator Ronaldson: That is something we will take on notice.

ANSWER

In fulfilling its functions, the *Industry Research and Development Act 1986* provides for a maximum of 15 Innovation Australia board members, including the Chair and an ex-officio member. As at 31 October 2014, there were nine members. The Australian Government has decided that this is sufficient for the proper performance of its functions.