

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

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: CRC – Appeal Mechanism

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 23 October 2014, pages 108-109)

QUESTION No.: SI-52

Senator KIM CARR: My understanding is that, of those that applied, the CRC for Optimising Resource Extraction, Vision CRC, CO2CRC and the Innovative Manufacturing CRC were those that applied for funding terms beyond 2014-15. Is that correct?...

Senator KIM CARR: Is there an appeal mechanism on quality?

Mr Stirling: I do not believe so. I can take that on notice and come back to you on that.....

Senator KIM CARR: I bet there are other factors. The CRC for Vision was about to go into a commercial venture, weren't they?

Mr Stirling: I am not sure about that. I could take that on notice and come back to you.

Senator KIM CARR: Yes, but you have responsibility for governance of the—

Mr Stirling: That is correct. As part of the general governance arrangements of the CRC program, each CRC needs to provide advice to the CRC committee in terms of its wind-up plan.

Senator KIM CARR: And when will that occur?

Mr Stirling: I can take that on notice specifically for those two, but, generally, it is a year out from the time that they are due to expire.

Senator KIM CARR: So when are they due to wind up?

Mr Stirling: I can take that on notice for you, in terms of the specific dates.

ANSWER

The Cooperative Research Centres (CRC) for Optimising Resource Extraction, Vision CRC, CRC for Greenhouse Gas Technologies (CO2CRC) and the proposed Innovative Manufacturing CRC have applied for funding beyond 2014-15. There is no appeal mechanism on quality.

The Vision CRC has undertaken a range of commercial activities and is considering a number of options to further advance its research and commercial objectives.

CRCs are required to provide the Department with a wind up plan 12 months prior to the end of their funding term. The CRC for Optimising Resource Extraction, Vision CRC and CO2CRC have submitted plans.

Their funding agreements end 30 June 2015, 30 June 2015 and 31 December 2014 respectively. CRCs may undertake some wind up activity beyond the funding agreement end date in accordance with the requirements of the agreement.

There is no funding agreement in place for the proposed Innovative Manufacturing CRC. The application is under consideration and a decision will be made in due course.