Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio 2015-16 Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 22 October 2015

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Synchrotron funding

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 22 October 2015, page 36)

QUESTION No.: SI-1

Senator KIM CARR: I will come back to the point: are other departmental agencies required to contribute, or is that \$20.5 million entirely through the department of industry?

Ms Beauchamp: The \$20.5 million is through the bottom line from the government. The source of funds for that \$20.5 million was considered through the budget development process.

Senator KIM CARR: Why can't you tell me who is paying what?

Ms Beauchamp: I just said that the government is providing \$20.5 as a budget measure.

Senator KIM CARR: Yes, but which agencies within government?

Ms Beauchamp: That gets very confusing in terms of the budget development process.

Senator KIM CARR: It is very confusing to me if you cannot tell me. Where is the money coming from?

Ms Beauchamp: The government.

CHAIR: I am interested as well, Senator Carr, but \$20.5 million is made up of a number of different contributions from different agencies. That is your proposition. What you are after is the break-up of that between the agencies.

Senator KIM CARR: I cannot see what is unreasonable about that.

CHAIR: We will try and get it. It looks like we might have some information.

Senator KIM CARR: Do you have some information, Madam Secretary?

Ms Beauchamp: The \$20.5 million was made up of contributions from other agencies, yes.

Senator KIM CARR: Yes. Can you tell me what those contributions are?

Ms Beauchamp: I have not got that information in front of me. Could I take that on notice, please? **Senator KIM CARR**: Of course you can. I am surprised you have not got that in front of you.

Ms Beauchamp: I think from the bottom line—

Senator KIM CARR: No, it is not just a question of the bottom line.

CHAIR: We do not want to have an argument, Senator Carr.

Senator KIM CARR: I cannot understand why there is this obstruction.

CHAIR: Madam Secretary has taken it on notice. She has not got it, so there is no point in verballing.

ANSWER

The \$20.5 million committed by the Australian Government to 2016-17 operating costs at the Australian Synchrotron comprises \$2.0 million from the Department of Defence, \$5.5 million from the Department of Education and Training, \$5.5 million from the Department of Health and \$7.5 million from the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.