

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates
20 October 2016

AGENCY: CSIRO

TOPIC: Public release of environmental impact statement

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 20 October 2016, page 87)

QUESTION No.: SI-16

Senator RHIANNON: I asked the question about the EIS, and you said that you have not got to that yet. Are there any exemptions for you, or will you have to do an EIS and will it be public?

Ms Bennett: We will be required, at the appropriate time, to do a full environmental impact statement.

Senator RHIANNON: Right. So it will be public in the usual way?

Ms Bennett: I would imagine, yes. I see no reason why not.

Senator RHIANNON: Going back to the comprehensive register of the works conducted on the site: at the moment that is not on the public record. Is there any reason for that, and will it be on the public record?

Ms Bennett: I will have to take that on notice.

ANSWER

Refer to SI-15 regarding the register of works.

A referral to the Department of the Environment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) to undertake the environmental assessment process will occur following the establishment of a Development Control Plan (DCP). The reports arising from this (contamination report and auditor's report, heritage assessment and ecological impact assessments) will become public through this process and the need for an EIS and/or other further studies will then be determined. It is currently anticipated that the DCP will be established in September 2017 with the resulting reports available in the first half of 2018.