

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

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Exploration Development Incentive

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 20 October 2016, page 137)

QUESTION No.: SI-45

Senator KETTER: I next want to look at the Exploration Development Incentive, and I am referring to the former resource minister's media release dated 12 February 2016, which says:

The EDI permits small mineral exploration companies with no taxable income to provide exploration credits to their Australian resident shareholders for greenfields mineral exploration.

My question is: how does the department define a small mineral company? Is it by dollar value, revenue or number of employees?

Mr B Wilson: The actual administration of the Exploration Development Incentive is delivered by the Department of the Treasury, so detailed questions on that really should go to them. But my understanding is that it is defined as a company that has no taxable income.

Senator KETTER: No taxable income?

Mr B Wilson: That is right.

Mr Sheldrick: In that year.

Mr B Wilson: In that year.

Senator KETTER: The media release says 'small mineral exploration companies with no taxable income'.

Mr B Wilson: That is what the press release says. I cannot interpret the press release any other way.

Senator KETTER: Can you take that on notice, then.

Mr B Wilson: Certainly.

ANSWER

Information on eligibility for the Exploration Development Incentive can be found on the ATO's website: <https://www.ato.gov.au/Business/Exploration-Development-Incentive/Eligible-exploration-companies/>