

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

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**DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

**TOPIC:** Community benefit program

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 20 October 2016, pages 140)

**QUESTION No.:** SI-47

Senator WATERS: I understand that the applications for the community benefit program closed about mid- August. How many applications were received?

Ms Facey: We received 17 applications for the fund, and they were seeking funding of \$2.8 million.

Senator WATERS: How many of those have been assessed so far?

Ms Facey: We have assessed all of them as being eligible, and AusIndustry has done a preliminary assessment. However, those assessments cannot be finalised until we have the view of the consultative committee.

Senator WATERS: Once the consultative committee is appointed and then able to provide advice on those applications, is that when a decision can be made?

Ms Facey: Then the assessments will be finalised and they will go to the program delegate for the fund, who is the general manager in AusIndustry with responsibility for the fund.

Senator WATERS: Does the minister tick off on those or will it stop at that person in the fund?

Ms Facey: No—that person, the general manager.

Senator WATERS: Are the criteria for making those decisions recorded somewhere?

Ms Facey: There are program guidelines which are on the business.gov.au site. I can go through them if you like.

Senator WATERS: Perhaps you could just send me the link, on notice, so I can have a look at those.

Ms Facey: Yes, I can send you the link, but just quickly: capacity and capability to carry out the project; the benefit to the community the project will achieve; and the value for money. So they are fairly straightforward, but I can certainly send you the link.

Senator WATERS: That is it?

Ms Facey: Yes.

**ANSWER**

The Programme Guidelines for the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility Community Benefit Programme are available at <https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/national-radioactive-waste-management-facility-community-benefit-programme>.