

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates February 2015

**Agriculture**

**Question: 1**

**Division/Agency:** Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences

**Topic:** Enterprise Agreement

**Proof Hansard page:** 25 (23.02.2015)

**Senator CAMERON asked:**

**Senator Cameron** Have you been conducting continuous improvement processes within the department over, say, the last 18 months?

**Mr Chapman:** As a business, I think we are always trying to improve the efficiency of how we conduct our business. It goes with the risk return and risk based intervention work we have been doing for a number of years and with the red tape reductions. So I think it is fair to say that improving the way we do our business is a constant element of work.

**Senator CAMERON:** What have you costed your red tape reduction within the department as?

**Mr Chapman:** I am not sure. I would have to take that on notice or get advice on that.

**Answer:**

The department has not costed internal red tape reduction. Some of the reform measures that have reduced regulatory compliance costs on businesses, individuals and community organisations – such as the centralisation of post-entry quarantine client phone calls – have also generated internal efficiencies. The value of those internal efficiencies has not been costed.