

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates February 2015

Agriculture

Question: 79

Division/Agency: Grains Research and Development Corporation

Topic: Organisational Structure

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator BULLOCK asked:

How is the proposal for the GRDC to become an industry owned corporation, or in the interim a hybrid organisation, progressing?

Answer:

Any change to the governance of Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) needs to be led by GRDC stakeholders – the Australian grains industry and the Australian Government.

If industry decide that GRDC should transition from a Statutory Corporation to an industry-owned company they would need to approach the Department of Agriculture and Minister for Agriculture, The Hon. Barnaby Joyce and put forward their case.

The GRDC recently sponsored a workshop (5-6 March 2015) with industry stakeholders to discuss the strategic drivers currently impacting the grains industry and grains industry research. GRDC governance arrangements were discussed along with other strategic opportunities and challenges.