

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Additional Estimates Hearing 2009-10
10 February 2010

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: National Broadband Network (R&D)

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Eggleston

QUESTION No.: AI-24

The Chief Executive of the Australian Information Industry Association says the Exposure Bill would hobble the productivity enhancing potential of the \$43b national broadband network and that “the whole success of the NBN rests on the value added services to be delivered on the back of the network” and that this will be stifled by the proposed changes. Given the Intergenerational Report and the Prime Ministers focus on productivity, to what extent do these proposals negatively impact on the innovative and development of much-needed applications for a digital economy on the back of the NBN?

ANSWER

The R&D Tax Credit is focussed on supporting genuine R&D activities in all industry sectors. The release of the second exposure draft is a measure of the Government’s intent to get this new R&D tax incentive right for both industry and the economy as a whole.