

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

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** Green Car Plan

**REFERENCE:** Written Question - Senator Eggleston

**QUESTION No.:** AI-30

In respect to Green Car Plan including the Green Car Innovation Fund:

- (1) What is the stated purpose of program?
- (2) When did the program commence and when is it scheduled to end?
- (3) How much money has been budgeted for the program for each year of the program?
- (4) How much funds have been spent to-date on the program for each year of the program?
- (5) Is the program on schedule and on budget?
- (6) How are funds appropriated to the program allocated?
- (7) Is spending under the program subject to guidelines and/or ministerial decision?
- (8) If there are no guidelines governing spending how is it governed?
- (9) Have all funds been allocated in accordance with the guidelines?
- (10) Where ministerial approval of payments is required – have any payments or amount of payment been made, or not made, contrary to Departmental recommendations?
- (11) Is the Department aware of any situation where funds have not been spent in accordance with the guidelines or any other requirement regarding the use of the funds?
- (12) Has any situation arisen requiring the recovery by the Government of funds paid by the government?
- (13) What amount has the Department spent in administering the program in each of the years of the programs operation?

**ANSWER**

(1) This information is publicly available at  
[www.ausindustry.gov.au/Manufacturing/GreenCarInnovationFund/Pages/GreenCarInnovationFund\(GCIF\).aspx](http://www.ausindustry.gov.au/Manufacturing/GreenCarInnovationFund/Pages/GreenCarInnovationFund(GCIF).aspx);

also from:

<http://minister.innovation.gov.au/Carr/Pages/ANEWCARPLANFORAGREENERFUTURE.aspx>

(2) Grant funding for the program commenced 2009-2010 and will finish 2018-2019.

(3) Administered budget

Year:	Amount (GST exclusive)
2009-2010	\$168.306 million
2010-2011	\$104.035 million

2011-2012	\$223.044 million
2012-2013	\$231.880 million

(4)

Year	Amount (GST exclusive)
2008-09	\$0.376 million
2009-10 (to 31 Jan 2010)	\$53.966 million

(5) As at 31 January 2010 the program is on schedule but is not on budget.

(6) The Green Car Innovation Committee of Innovation Australia, considers and ranks eligible applications received under the Green Car Innovation Fund. The Committee makes its recommendations to the Departmental Program Delegate who is the final decision maker for the program. Applications for grant funding of \$5 million or more are also referred to Innovation Australia. Stream A applications recommended for grant funding of \$5 million or more at a ratio greater than 25 per cent grant funding are also considered by the Minister. All recommended applications seeking grant funding of \$10 million or more are also considered by Cabinet.

(7) The Green Car Innovation Fund operates under program guidelines. The information is publicly available at:

<http://www.ausindustry.gov.au/Manufacturing/GreenCarInnovationFund/Pages/GreenCarInnovationFund-EligibleExpenditureGuidelines.aspx>

(8) Answered above.

(9) Yes, and noting that the Government exercised due process in considering applications submitted before the guidelines were finalised on 24 April 2009.

(10) Not applicable.

(11) No.

(12) No.

(13) In 2008-09 the Departmental allocation was \$1.590 million. In 2009-10 it is \$3.471 million.