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: Commercialisation Australia (CA)

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Eggleston

QUESTION No.: AI-59

Has a permanent full time Chief Executive of Commercialisation Australia been appointed? If not, why not?

Why was this position not filled prior to calling for applications and the commencement of the program?

When will a CEO be appointed and when will they commence work?

ANSWER

No. The position was advertised nationally between 9 December 2009 and 8 January 2010. The recruitment process has been underway since applications closed.

A senior departmental officer has been acting and performing the duties of the Commercialisation Australia Chief Executive Officer since 17 December 2009. The program was opened for applications as soon as possible to enable those in need of assistance to apply for funding.

The Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research is in the process of finalising a short-list for the position. An offer is expected to be made and the new Chief Executive Officer is to be appointed by mid April 2010.