

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Additional Budget Senate Estimates

10 February 2010

Question: AR22
Topic: Audit
Proof Hansard Page: E13

Senator Eggleston asked:

Senator EGGLESTON—Could I ask that the audit of research that the department referred to be tabled or provided on notice.

Mr Pierce—I cannot see why not, but let me check. Of course you understand that the audit has not been completed as yet and it would be our intention, as I said, to do so through this research board when we have done that. The purpose is to identify where there are research gaps and what we should be doing going forward. As for the audit going to the board, with the way I am chairing this board I would expect that members of the industry who are on that board would share that information with the organisations that they represent, hence I cannot see a reason why it should not be tabled because it will be out there in the industry. Allow me to qualify that by saying I would obviously need to check with the minister, but I cannot see a reason why it would not be.

Answer:

A Tourism Research Desktop Review has recently been underway in the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism. The aim of this Review is to provide the Australian tourism industry with a comprehensive database of available tourism research and encourage the participation of research providers (public and private) to maintain the currency and sustainability of this valuable research.

The Review is currently at stage one of its work; stage two will be a more detailed Review, providing a more robust basis to identify and nominate future year research areas.

The results of stage one are attached.