Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio

Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 30-31 May 2005

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:

IP AUSTRALIA

TOPIC:

SYNTROLEUM

REFERENCE:

WRITTEN QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

BI 05/80a

QUESTION No.55

(Written QON)

Senator Campbell asked:

Having read the contract entered into between Syntroleum and the Commonwealth what is IP Australia's understanding of the Commonwealth's rights with regards to the intellectual property contained in Syntroleum's GTL technology; Front End Engineering Design (FEED); the Syntroleum process and all other Syntroleum technologies covered under the agreement?

ANSWER

IP Australia has not had access to the contract entered into between Syntroleum and the Commonwealth. Accordingly, it cannot comment on the issues raised in the question.

QUESTION No.56

(Written QON)

BI 05/80b

Senator Campbell asked:

Can IP Australia tell the Committee what remedies might be available to the Commonwealth in regards to the intellectual property covered by the agreement if Syntroleum fails to meet its contractual obligations?

ANSWER

See response to question 55 (above).

QUESTION No.57

(Written QON)

BI 05/80c

Senator Campbell asked:

Can IP Australia tell the Committee what can be done to release the Commonwealth from the requirement that it must obtain Syntroleum's permission to use the licence as it sees fit?

ANSWER

See response to question 55 (above).