

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2009-10
21 October 2009

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: LPG Vehicle Scheme

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 21 October 2009 E59)

QUESTION No.: SI-35

Senator ABETZ—.....can I move on to the LPG vehicle scheme, please.

Senator Carr—How can we help you, Senator?

Senator ABETZ—Can we be told the numbers or—let us be honest—the decline in numbers in this scheme since the changes?

Mr Peel—The figures as of 30 September 2009 are that there have been 242,024 claims allowed under the scheme to a value of \$480,894,000.

Senator ABETZ—Mr Peel, thank you for that, but have we seen a decline in the uptake in recent months?

Mr Peel—We have seen a decline in the first quarter, to 30 September, of about 36 per cent from the same period last year.

Senator ABETZ—That is 36 per cent is overall. What about in the retrofit market?

Mr Peel—I do not have a figure.

Senator ABETZ—All right. You can take that on notice for the retrofit market and the new market, because, as I understand it, the support provided has increased for the new market—

ANSWER

The 36 per cent figure refers to the period of January to September 2009 compared to the same period in 2008. It is not possible to provide a breakdown for retrofits and new vehicle conversions for the period of 1 January to 30 September 2009 compared to the same period in 2008 due to changes in grant classification from 1 July 2009.

Prior to 1 July 2009 LPG grants were classified as either LPG conversions (which included purchase of new vehicles fitted with LPG after manufacture but before first registration) or purchase of new vehicles fitted with LPG at time of manufacture.

From 1 July 2009, these classifications changed to

- conversion of a registered vehicle; or
- purchase of a new LPG vehicle, this includes vehicles fitted with LPG at time of manufacture and vehicles fitted with LPG after manufacture but before first registration.