

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** CSIRO  
**Output Group:** - CSIRO

#### **DEST Question No. E771\_04**

Senator Carr asked on 18 February 2004, EWRE Hansard page 94.

#### **Question:**

Can I ask you some questions regarding the Exploration and Mining Division. As you are aware, the Australian Geosciences Council expressed concern about the developments at CSIRO's North Ryde facility. I would ask you to take the question on notice with regard to the specific concerns raised by the Geoscience Council. I am particularly interested in two of the staff involved. The fundamental concern was the destruction of the suite of laboratories that provided the critical mass for research in the sector. It was such an important export industry and was acknowledged as a world leader, and I am interested to know the scientific justification for the actions taken.

#### **Answer:**

CSIRO has provided the following response.

#### *Australian Geoscience Council concern about CSIRO's Exploration and Mining Division at North Ryde*

There has been no destruction of a suite of laboratories: CSIRO Exploration & Mining (CEM) decided to close some of its analytical and geophysical facilities at North Ryde and then proceeded to discuss with other CSIRO divisions and universities (including Macquarie, ANU, Melbourne, Monash and Curtin) how the equipment and personnel might be deployed elsewhere. None of the major equipment has been destroyed, and most has been redeployed in CSIRO, Macquarie University or Melbourne University. (See also detailed answer to question E966\_04.)