

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: - CSIRO

DEST Question No. E953_04

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Is it good management practice to retrench the people that will be doing the interpretation for MAGSAFE after DSTO has allocated \$3 M to CSIRO to develop MAGSAFE?"

Is CSIRO management concerned that bright young scientists looking for a career will not be attracted to the organisation when the two people who have produced good science for CSIRO for more than 25 years and are working on a project of national significance were sacked.

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

DSTO and MAGSAFE

- a) The MAGSAFE project is managed by CSIRO Telecommunications and Industrial Physics (CTIP) and will continue. While one person from CSIRO Exploration and Mining (CEM) involved in the project has been made redundant, it is not the case that all of the staff involved have been "retrenched". The opportunity to transfer CEM staff to CTIP to participate in the project is open and has already been taken up by one person, and CEM and CTIP will continue to work together and transfer staff as appropriate.
- b) CSIRO places a strong emphasis on attracting bright young scientists, as demonstrated by the strong focus on its post-doctoral scheme, career planning scheme and opportunities for scientific and leadership training to develop and retain the best young talent.