

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3

Output Group: 3.2 – Assistance for science collaboration and innovation.

DEST Question No. E293_06

Senator Carr asked on 1 June 2005, EWRE Hansard page 81.

Question:

“The funding is provided for the following items: a technical assessment of potentially suitable locations for the facility; the preparation of material for environmental assessment of the preferred location under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act; preparation and submission of an application to ARPANSA for a licence to site the facility at the preferred location; project management services to coordinate these processes; support of an expert technical committee to provide technical advice on the project to the Australian government; and departmental staff travel and legal expenses. Those are the broad headings which the funding is for.

Senator CARR—Do you have a breakdown of those? Have you got a table for me or are you going to read them out?

Mr Walters—I can supply a table for you.”

Answer:

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility

The 2005-06 Budget provided additional funding over the next three years to progress responsible management of radioactive waste generated by Australian Government agencies. The following table provides a breakdown of estimated costs:

	2005-06 \$'000	2006-07 \$'000	2007-08 \$'000
Administered *			
<i>Technical assessment of Sites</i>	1,153	—	—
<i>Environmental Impact Assessment</i>	—	3,207	—
<i>ARPANSA Licence processes</i>	—	—	818
<i>Expert committee</i>	367	375	382
<i>Project management</i>	628	642	654
<i>Public Information and Communications</i>	818	299	305
<i>Other</i>	—	2,157	—
Total	2,966	6,680	2,159
Departmental			
<i>Staff and on-costs (3 ASL)</i>	408	415	417
<i>Legal advice</i>	202	205	208
<i>Travel</i>	162	164	103
Total	772	784	728

Note *: The Administered costs incorporate a small level of existing funding previously for the repository project.