

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Topic: Home Insulation Program - Price of Batts**

**Question reference number: CC69**

**Type of Question: Hansard ECA page 109, 9 February 2010**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010**

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**Question:** (Senator Troeth)

**Senator TROETH**—What advice has the government received about a spike in the price of insulation since the pink batts program was announced in early February 2009?

**Mr Aaron Hughes**—As part of the program the department meets with industry very regularly and we take representations from industry regularly as well. In terms of a formal representation or an informal representation, we would have to take that on notice, because obviously industry representatives would make different representations to us all the time and we would have to do some work as to whether or not those representations were true in bearing out the number that we had.

**Senator TROETH**—Could you include in that answer over that time since early February 2009 how much the price has risen?

**Answer:**

Throughout the Home Insulation Program the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts received anecdotal evidence that the price of insulation increased in 2009 in line with the increase in demand for insulation products.

No analysis has been undertaken by the Department on the retail cost of insulation material.