

Committee Name
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
Inquiry into the Australian manufacturing industry
08 December 2021

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE, ENERGY AND RESOURCES

TOPIC: Goods Production

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 08 December 2021, Page 58)

QUESTION No.: 3

Senator PRATT: Can I clarify something there, Senator Scarr? It's my understanding that the Perth facility makes saline solutions and injectables, and that, whilst Pfizer is expanding in Australia, it's expanding in other areas and that the goods that are produced in Perth will be offshored. Am I correct in that understanding?

Ms Looney: I can take that on notice, but my understanding is that the Melbourne facility manufactures some of the products that were being manufactured in Perth, such as the chemotherapy products.

Senator PRATT: Yes, the chemotherapy products will have a single place in Australia rather than two, but it's the range of the other injectable solutions, syringes and those kinds of things.

ANSWER

In October 2020, Pfizer announced plans to cease manufacturing at its Perth facility in 2023, and exit the facility by 2024. Pfizer noted that the decision was part of a global restructuring program.

Pfizer's Perth production capability will be transferred to its Melbourne facility and other plants. The Melbourne facility also manufactures the chemotherapy products formerly produced at the Perth facility. Pfizer expects to invest more than \$140 million in its Melbourne facility over the next decade, including in a new packing line.

Pfizer aims to exit the Perth facility by sale. Pfizer is working with the Government of Western Australian (WA) and the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (the Department) to support the sale, by informing potential buyers of relevant government programs. The Department is working with the WA Taskforce established to transition the facility.