

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 & 19 October 2012

Question: E12-041

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: WIND FARMS – INDEPENDENCE OF THE TWO PEER REVIEWERS

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Back

Question:

What steps did the NHMRC take to determine the independence of the two peer reviewers it chose for the Rapid Review, being Professor Geoffrey Leventhall and Professor Simon Chapman? Is the NHMRC aware that Professor Leventhall has worked extensively with the wind industry in the UK, the US and Canada, and given expert evidence for wind developers?

Answer:

Professor Leventhall is internationally recognised as an acoustician with a breadth of expertise in infrasound. Any potential conflict of interest is managed strictly in accordance with the NHMRC policy.

Professor Chapman was selected for his public health expertise.