

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Industry Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15  
2-3 June 2014

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

**TOPIC:** SKA Project – Host Country Contributions

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 2 June 2014, page 109)

**QUESTION No.:** BI-48

**Senator KIM CARR:** What is the prospect of Australia actually losing the project if it does not meet the funding obligations?

**Senator Ronaldson:** That is clearly a hypothetical question.

**Senator KIM CARR:** I do not think it is hypothetical at all.

**Senator Ronaldson:** I think it is.

**Senator KIM CARR:** I think, Professor Boyle, there has been a discussion about that.

**Dr Boyle:** No, there has not been any discussion about the host countries not contributing their money.

**Senator KIM CARR:** I see. And there has been no conversation within the board about the consequences of host premiums not being met?

**Dr Boyle:** No, there has been no conversation with the board on that matter.

**Senator KIM CARR:** And no conversation within the Australian government about that prospect?

**Dr Boyle:** No.

**Senator KIM CARR:** Maybe you should take that on notice, Professor. I would urge you to take that on notice before you answer it in that way.

**Dr Boyle:** Yes, I will.

**ANSWER**

Previous discussions regarding host country premiums have focussed on cost pressures to the project arising out of host countries meeting, in part, their obligations through the provision of existing infrastructure rather than as an additional cash or in-kind contribution to the project.