Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Industry Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15 23 October 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation

TOPIC: Unconventional gas extraction

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 23 October 2014, page 31)

QUESTION No.: SI-15

Senator WATERS: I might further ask: are you are whether there is any similar work proposed or

funded for other forms of unconventional gas extraction, especially—

Dr Clark: I will take that on notice.

ANSWER

CSIRO research currently being undertaken on the measurement of fugitive methane emissions in relation to coal seam gas activities includes that already discussed in SI-122, specifically research with the Commonwealth Department of the Environment (phase 1 and 2) and with GISERA (question 7). CSIRO is also working with the NSW Environment Protection Authority to monitor fugitive methane air emissions across a range of different natural and industrial sources over the four different seasons. The sources include wetlands, native forests, landfills, rice farming, coal mines, coal seam gas sites, sewage treatment plants and intensive agricultural sites. CSIRO is also currently negotiating a commercial contract to look at emissions near the Condamine River.