

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio
Additional Estimates 2005-2006, 16 February 2006

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND RESOURCES
TOPIC: INVEST AUSTRALIA INVOLVEMENT IN FORTESCUE METALS GROUP
PILBARA PROJECT
REFERENCE: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

QUESTION No.AI-42

Senator Campbell asked:

What exact role did the Department play in the Fortescue Metals Group Ltd (FMG) Pilbara project?

ANSWER

The Pilbara Iron Ore and Infrastructure project was awarded major project facilitation (MPF) status by the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources on 9 December 2004.

As part of the MPF process, AusIndustry has discussed with FMG representatives programs that may be relevant to the project but no applications have been lodged by the company.

QUESTION No.AI-43

Senator Campbell asked:

How much did the Department appropriate to this project?

ANSWER

The Department did not appropriate any money to this project.

QUESTION No.AI-44

Senator Campbell asked:

Is the Department aware of Fortescue's current dispute with BHP Billiton?

ANSWER

Yes.

QUESTION No.AI-45

Senator Campbell asked:

What (if any) was the Department's involvement in this dispute?

ANSWER

The Department has had no involvement in this dispute.