

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Additional Estimates Hearing 2010-11
23 February 2011

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Australian Industry Participation

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Colbeck

QUESTION No.: AI-100

At what stage of procurement processes are Australian Industry Participation plans typically considered?

ANSWER

Australian Industry Participation Plans for major Commonwealth Procurement

Tenderers for selected major Commonwealth procurements (generally over \$20 million) are required to prepare, submit and implement Australian Industry Participation (AIP) Plans. The AIP Plan policy applies to Australian Government agencies that are subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.

The tender documentation for each major Commonwealth procurement process will specify whether an AIP Plan is required and at what stage in the tender process the AIP Plan must be developed. Usually an AIP Plan will be developed prior to the close of the tender. However, some processes, such as to establish panels, require each successful tenderer to develop an AIP Plan before signing a contract.

Enhanced Project By-law Scheme

An AIP Plan for the Enhanced Project By-law Scheme (EPBS) must be developed and submitted to the AusIndustry delegate for approval at the very early stages of the project to ensure the early identification of opportunities for Australian industry and the effective transfer of information on these opportunities to potential Australian suppliers. This must be prior to approaching the market for the provision of goods and services, and preferably at the design and engineering stage of the project.