

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: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: Ngara briefings for NBN Co, DBCDE and Senator Conroy

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 23 February 2011, E9)

QUESTION No.: AI-2

Senator COLBECK—Could you provide on notice the dates of those briefings that you have had with NBN and also the dates of briefings with the department. Do you know if Senator Conroy himself has had a briefing on this technology?

Dr Zelinsky—I would have to take that on notice.

ANSWER

The Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE) has been briefed on CSIRO's wireless technology research, including CSIRO's Ngara Wireless Access Technology, and the dates and topics of those briefings are listed in Table 1.

Following the 2020 summit, CSIRO briefed Senator Conroy on 25 August 2008 on an experimental broadband network being developed for next generation technologies, knowledge infrastructure of the future and services science. In addition, CSIRO met with Advisers to Senator Conroy, on 19 March 2009 and 12 October 2010 to discuss CSIRO's research relevant to the portfolio, which included reference to CSIRO's wireless research activities.

Table 1: CSIRO's meetings with DBCDE and NBN Co from January 2010 to March 2011:

Date	Description	Individual meeting	Participating at the same forum
12/01/2010	Meeting with DBCDE regarding the new series of technology seminars at DBCDE in Canberra, including new wireless innovations.	Yes	
20/01/2010	Presentation to DBCDE on the progress of CSIRO's wireless technologies.	Yes	
27/01/2010	Meeting with DBCDE involving discussions about CSIRO's capabilities in Rural Wireless Broadband Access and Backhaul, CSIRO's broader capacity in Wireless and Networking areas, and CSIRO's capability in broadband related research and applications (e.g. telehealth,	Yes	

Date	Description	Individual meeting	Participating at the same forum
	telepresence).		
9/03/2010	Meeting with NBN Co regarding CSIRO's research into broadband wireless technologies.	Yes	
21/04/2010	Meeting with NBN Co regarding CSIRO's technologies including CSIRO's Ngarra Wireless Access Technology.	Yes	
16/08/2010	Meeting with DBCDE regarding CSIRO's broadband related research.	Yes	
18/08/2010	Meeting with NBN Co regarding the Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation's test network design.	Yes	
14/09/2010	Meeting with DBCDE regarding the Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation and CSIRO's Ngarra Wireless Access Technology.	Yes	
7/10/2010	Meeting with DBCDE regarding CSIRO's Ngarra Wireless Access Technology and planned Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation activities.	Yes	
15/10/2010	Meeting with DBCDE to provide an update on CSIRO's broadband related research.	Yes	
22/10/2010	Meeting with DBCDE regarding CSIRO's Ngarra Wireless Access Technology and planned Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation activities.	Yes	
4/11/2010	Demonstration of CSIRO's Ngarra Wireless Access Technology to NBN Co.	Yes	
29/11/2010	Meeting with NBN Co regarding the Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation's network design.	Yes	
7/12/2010	Launch of the Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation, involving CSIRO and NBN Co.		Yes
14/12/2010	Field trial of CSIRO's Ngarra Wireless Access Technology with DBCDE representatives in attendance.		Yes
17/12/2010	Meeting with DBCDE regarding CSIRO's Digital Productivity research initiatives.	Yes	

Date	Description	Individual meeting	Participating at the same forum
20/12/2010	Meeting with DBCDE regarding CSIRO's broadband related technologies including CSIRO's Ngara Wireless Access Technology.	Yes	
23/12/2010	Meeting with NBN Co regarding the progress of the Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation.	Yes	
17/01/2011	Teleconference with NBN Co regarding the progress of the Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation and possible applications.	Yes	
17/01/2011	Teleconference with DBCDE regarding examples and case studies of applications of broadband.	Yes	
24/01/2011	Meeting with NBN Co regarding the progress of the Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation.	Yes	
1/02/2011	Discussion with DBCDE regarding broadband related research and the Digital Economy.	Yes	
24/02/2011 to 25/02/2011	Discussions with DBCDE within the NBN Workshop (hosted by DBCDE). The objectives of the workshop were: to discuss the capabilities of the NBN and its potential impact on service delivery, and to brainstorm how to prepare for the changes that the proposed NBN will bring and how to best take advantage of the opportunity.		Yes
25/02/2011	Teleconference with NBN Co regarding CSIRO's Ngara Wireless Access Technology and an update on the Australian Centre for Broadband's activities.	Yes	
21/03/2011	Demonstration to DBCDE and NBN Co of CSIRO's Ngara Wireless Access Technology.		Yes