

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: Home Insulation Safety Plan

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Birmingham

QUESTION No.: AI-42

- i) When did the CSIRO commence work for the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency in relation to its Home Insulation Safety Plan?
- ii) How much work has been, and is still expected to be, undertaken in terms of hours and days?
- iii) How many staff are involved?
- iv) What fees are being charged?
- v) What timelines were involved in the initial contract?
- vi) Please outline any variation between these and timelines now applying.
- vii) What deliverables have been provided to date?
- viii) Was the CSIRO asked to provide advice on whether the numbers of properties being inspected was adequate?
- ix) Has the CSIRO provided advice on the appropriateness of the number of properties being inspected?
- x) Has the CSIRO advised that further expertise might be required?
- xi) Is the CSIRO aware of the appointment of Booz & Co. as consultants also to advise the Government in relation to the Home Insulation Safety Plan?
- xii) Can the CSIRO comment on the suitability of such an arrangement, including with respect to relative skills and expertise?

ANSWER

- i) CSIRO commenced discussions with the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE) on 1 June 2010 and a service agreement was signed with DCCEE on 12 July 2010.
- ii) The contract is for up to 124 days of work (calculated at 7 hours and 21 minutes per day). As at 31st January 2011, 118 days of work has been completed on the contract.
- iii) Refer to response to SI-57, Supplementary Budget Estimates , October 2010 (part1)
- iv) Refer to response to SI-57, Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010 (part 4)
- v) Refer to response to SI-57, Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010 (part 3)
- vi) Consistent with the staged approach in the original service agreement, a variation was negotiated in December 2010 to reflect the revised workload. The scope remained similar but the estimated amount of work required to complete the project increased.
- vii) To date, CSIRO has provided draft reports to DCCEE with details of our analysis and recommendations.
- viii) No.
- ix) No.
- x) No.
- xi) Yes.
- xii) CSIRO is unable to comment on this matter as we do not have complete knowledge of the full capabilities of Booz and Co and the scope of their engagement in the Home Insulation Safety Plan. This question is more appropriately directed to DCCEE.