

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: Green Car Innovation Fund

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Colbeck

QUESTION No.: AI-68

Is it true that, even if every single Green Car Innovation Fund application still on hand was to be approved, the total spent on the Fund would be \$422 million?

Given the Government disclosed in its list of savings of 27 January 2011 that this amount would be \$499 million, what accounts for the \$77 million (and possibly as much as \$185 million) difference in these figures?

ANSWER

No. If all remaining applications on hand at 31 January 2011 were approved, the total allocated to grants would be in the order of \$416 million (GST exclusive).

Of the \$499 million (GST exclusive), in the order of \$416 million (GST exclusive) would be available for grants. \$60 million (GST exclusive) in funding was made available under the program in 2009-10 but was not taken up by industry. Financial year 2009-10 coincided with the period in which the full impact of the global financial crisis was felt by the automotive industry globally and significantly constrained the ability of companies within the Australian automotive industry to invest in new innovation projects at that time. The remainder is related to Departmental and Administered operating expenditure to support the delivery of the program over its life.