

SENATE ECONOMICS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE - ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 FEBRUARY 2011

RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO

Q No.	Program, Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page and Hearing Date or Written Q	Date response Rec'd	Date Tabled
AR1	DRET	Siewert	Medical Tourism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has the government been considering fostering medical tourism to provide a boon for the health and tourism sectors? 2. Has any money been set aside for a scoping study? How much? 3. How much does the government estimates this market is worth? 	Written	12/04/2011	12/05/2011
AR2	DRET	Eggleston	Tourism Related Initiatives and Management	<p>Program 4: Tourism Related Initiatives and Management</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What has been the cost of the work done so far in the proposal to resume Tourism Australia within the Department? 2. Is the Minister for Tourism a member of the Regional Australia Cabinet sub-committee? 3. A draft paper on options for a future tourism grants program was provided to the Minister for Tourism prior to the election. Please table the report. 4. Regarding the international engagement of the Minister for Tourism, how many countries has the Minister visited in the last three years in his role as the Minister for Tourism? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please provide a list of all meetings the Minister(s) (Sherry and Ferguson) have had in their roles in the tourism portfolio outside of Australia. 5. For staff allocated to Program 4, excluding those at Tourism Research Australia, what is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The total number b. The number of FT, PT and casual c. The number of, and range of, salary bands available, 	Written	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

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				<p>including for SES</p> <p>d. The total cost of staffing expenses (for 2010-11)</p> <p>6. What is the total budget allocated to Tourism Research Australia, what is the split between Cth appropriation, External Revenue from STOs and other external revenue, for:</p> <p>a. 2010-11; 2011-12; 2012-13; 2013-14</p> <p>7. For staff at Tourism Research Australia, what is:</p> <p>a. The total number</p> <p>b. The number of FT, PT and casual</p> <p>c. The number of, and range of, salary bands available, including for SES</p> <p>d. The total cost of staffing expenses (for 2010-11)</p> <p>8. What proportion of the Program support funding for Program 4 is allocated to the establishment or implementation of the National Long-Term Tourism Strategy for:</p> <p>a. 2010-11; 2011-12; 2012-13; 2013-14</p> <p>9. How will the Government's \$6 million election commitment for the National Long-Term Tourism Strategy be allocated:</p> <p>a. In each Financial Year;</p> <p>b. For each working group;</p> <p>10. For each of the following working groups in the National Long-Term Tourism Strategy, what is i) the total funding available for each working group or stream (through the Tourism Ministers' Council); ii) the number and name of each member of the working group; and iii) the Commonwealth's contribution for:</p> <p>a. Destination Management Planning Working Group (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14)</p> <p>b. Digital Distribution Working Group (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14)</p> <p>c. Indigenous Tourism Working Group (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14)</p>			

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Industry Resilience Working Group (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14) e. Investment and Regulatory Reform Working Group (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14) f. Labour and Skills Working Group (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14) g. Research and Development Advisory Board (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14) h. Tourism Access Working Group (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14) i. Tourism Quality Council of Australia (for 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14) <p>11. For the additional \$40 million allocated to the TQUAL Grants programme as part of the Government's election commitments,:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. How will this \$40 million be allocated in each financial year? (eg. \$10m each year?) b. Will it all be expended in the forward estimates? c. How many funding rounds will be conducted with this money? d. Has any of the \$40 million been allocated to meet specific elections commitments, or will the entire pool be distributed, on application, by the Department? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If allocated as election commitments, please seek a list of all commitments including amount committed, project name, project description and electorate. e. What part of the \$40 million will be distributed as grants and what part will be allocated to administration and advertising expenses? <p>12. The first key performance indicator for Program 4 is: "Extent to which tourism interests are considered and reflected in the broader context of Australian Government policy</p>			

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				<p>development and implementation, including in relation to labour.." (Portfolio Budget Statement Page 37)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. To what extent were tourism interests considered and reflected as part of the Government's award modernisation process? b. To what extent were tourism interests considered and reflected as part of the Government's decision to increase employer-funded superannuation guarantee from 9 per cent to 12 per cent? 			
AR3	Tourism Australia	Eggleston	Tourism Australia	<p>Tourism Australia – General Questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr McEvoy, are you aware of any proposal by the Government to resume Tourism Australia within the Department? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Has TA engaged in any work on such a move? What has been the cost of that work? 2. What is the date of the most recent <i>Statement of Expectations</i> TA has received from the Minister? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please table a copy of the most recent <i>Statement of Expectations</i> 3. What is the date of the most recent <i>Statement of Intent</i> sent from TA to the Minister? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please table a copy of the most recent <i>Statement of Intent</i> 4. Please table a current organisational structure chart for TA. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have the titles/responsibilities of any of the executive team changed in the last three months? b. Have any members of the executive team resigned or had their employment terminated in the last three months? 5. Were any corporate cost saving initiatives implemented by 	Written	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

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				<p>Tourism Australia in 2010-11 or in 2009-10?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What was the value of each cost saving, the total cost of all initiatives each year? b. Is the cost saving ongoing or temporary? <p>6. What is the total cost of all wages for Tourism Australia employees? Can TA provide a five year comparison of staffing numbers and staffing costs (2006-07 to 2010-11), taking out Tourism Research Australia employees in the earlier years to allow for like-on-like comparison?</p> <p>7. What is the number of premises leased for use by Tourism Australia?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What is the per square metre, and total rental costs per annum, for each premise? b. What is the address of each premise leased for use by Tourism Australia? c. Where TA joins another agency or department in a premise, what, if any, contribution is made by TA to the operating expenses of that premise? <p>8. What are the land and buildings owned by Tourism Australia (\$754,000 value in 2010-11 at the PBS page 120)?</p> <p>9. For 2009-10 and 2010-11 to date, what was the total contribution of industry sources to each Tourism Australia campaign or trade event?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please list the amount contributed by industry source. <p><i>Also discussed on page E93, 23/02/2010 as below</i></p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—In 2009-10 and 2011-11 to date, what was the total contribution of industry sources to each Tourism Australia campaign or trade event?</p> <p>Mr McEvoy—We will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—And could you please list the amount contributed by each industry source?</p>			

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				<p>Mr McEvoy—Sorry; can I clarify what you mean by ‘each industry source’?</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—The question talks about industry sources’ contribution to each Tourism Australia campaign or trade event. Presumably it means tourism industry participants.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—But do you want the names of the actual companies?</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—No—the question asks for the amount of money they contributed; it does specify the companies concerned. If you can do that, that would be helpful information.</p> <p>Mr McEvoy—Okay; thanks.</p> <p>10. Regarding the Business Events Strategy Implementation Group (BESIG):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the budget provided for the operation of the Group? What secretariat services are provided for the Group? What are the members of the Group? What are the 19 recommendations of the Business Events Strategy the BESIG has been tasked to implement? Please list. <p>Tourism Australia (‘TA’)</p> <p>Program 1.1: Industry Development</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="842 1098 1630 1385"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="842 1098 1055 1185">\$'000</th> <th data-bbox="1055 1098 1169 1185">2009-10</th> <th data-bbox="1169 1098 1283 1185">2010-11</th> <th data-bbox="1283 1098 1397 1185">2011-12</th> <th data-bbox="1397 1098 1512 1185">2012-13</th> <th data-bbox="1512 1098 1630 1185">2013-14</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="842 1185 1055 1273">Program support</td> <td data-bbox="1055 1185 1169 1273">14,697</td> <td data-bbox="1169 1185 1283 1273">12,983</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1185 1397 1273">14,429</td> <td data-bbox="1397 1185 1512 1273">14,580</td> <td data-bbox="1512 1185 1630 1273">14,756</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="842 1273 1055 1385">Total program expenses</td> <td data-bbox="1055 1273 1169 1385">14,697</td> <td data-bbox="1169 1273 1283 1385">12,983</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1273 1397 1385">14,429</td> <td data-bbox="1397 1273 1512 1385">14,580</td> <td data-bbox="1512 1273 1630 1385">14,756</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	\$'000	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Program support	14,697	12,983	14,429	14,580	14,756	Total program expenses	14,697	12,983	14,429	14,580	14,756			
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				<p>11. Of the expenditure in Program 1.1 for Industry Development, what proportion of that would be spent either in Australia or in Australian dollars?</p> <p>12. Given funding for this program has been reduced by \$1.7 million, or about 12 per cent this year, what is TA no longer doing this year that it was doing last year?</p> <p>13. Of those research activities that remain within TA, such as consumer behaviour research and so on, has TA's procurement of, or expenditure on, research been reduced in 2010-11?</p> <p>14. Is it correct a \$195 registration fee is being charged for tourism industry participants to attend the 'Australian Tourism Directions Conference'. This is quite high for a participation fee, particularly where TA is seeking to "define a long-term vision for the Australian tourism industry." Is this kind of fee the result of the Government's budget cut for the current year?</p> <p>Tourism Australia ('TA')</p> <p>Program 1.2: Strengthening the travel distribution system</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="842 1042 1630 1334"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="842 1042 1057 1129">\$'000</th> <th data-bbox="1057 1042 1169 1129">2009-10</th> <th data-bbox="1169 1042 1283 1129">2010-11</th> <th data-bbox="1283 1042 1397 1129">2011-12</th> <th data-bbox="1397 1042 1512 1129">2012-13</th> <th data-bbox="1512 1042 1630 1129">2013-14</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="842 1129 1057 1214">Program support</td> <td data-bbox="1057 1129 1169 1214">17,725</td> <td data-bbox="1169 1129 1283 1214">15,634</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1129 1397 1214">17,339</td> <td data-bbox="1397 1129 1512 1214">17,524</td> <td data-bbox="1512 1129 1630 1214">17,738</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="842 1214 1057 1334">Total program expenses</td> <td data-bbox="1057 1214 1169 1334">17,725</td> <td data-bbox="1169 1214 1283 1334">15,634</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1214 1397 1334">17,339</td> <td data-bbox="1397 1214 1512 1334">17,524</td> <td data-bbox="1512 1214 1630 1334">17,738</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>15. Of the expenditure in Program 1.2 for strengthening the travel</p>	\$'000	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Program support	17,725	15,634	17,339	17,524	17,738	Total program expenses	17,725	15,634	17,339	17,524	17,738			
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				<p>distribution system, what proportion of that would be spent either in Australia or in Australian dollars?</p> <p>16. Given funding for this program has been reduced by \$2.1 million, or about 12 per cent this year, what is TA no longer doing this year that it was doing last year?</p> <p>17. Please provide a list of each trade event in which TA organised, coordinated, or participated in 2009/10 and to date in 2010/11.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What was the name of each event. Where was each event held (City/State/Country) What was the financial cost to TA for each event; or what was the profit returned to TA for each event. <p>18. As at 1 July 2010, what is the number of travel agents in the 'Aussie Specialist Program'?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What was the number at 1 July 2009? <p>19. As per the KPI for Program 1.2, what is the per cent of stakeholders indicating that TA helps their business? Please provide a five year history of this KPI as achieved by TA.</p> <p>Tourism Australia ('TA')</p> <p>Program 1.3: Increase demand for Australia as a destination</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="842 1054 1630 1347"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="842 1054 1005 1142">\$'000</th> <th data-bbox="1005 1054 1128 1142">2009-10</th> <th data-bbox="1128 1054 1254 1142">2010-11</th> <th data-bbox="1254 1054 1377 1142">2011-12</th> <th data-bbox="1377 1054 1503 1142">2012-13</th> <th data-bbox="1503 1054 1630 1142">2013-14</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="842 1142 1005 1225">Program support</td> <td data-bbox="1005 1142 1128 1225">128,714</td> <td data-bbox="1128 1142 1254 1225">113,507</td> <td data-bbox="1254 1142 1377 1225">125,858</td> <td data-bbox="1377 1142 1503 1225">127,204</td> <td data-bbox="1503 1142 1630 1225">128,763</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="842 1225 1005 1347">Total program expenses</td> <td data-bbox="1005 1225 1128 1347">128,714</td> <td data-bbox="1128 1225 1254 1347">113,507</td> <td data-bbox="1254 1225 1377 1347">125,858</td> <td data-bbox="1377 1225 1503 1347">127,204</td> <td data-bbox="1503 1225 1630 1347">128,763</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>20. What is the total budget for Business Events Australia, and</p>	\$'000	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Program support	128,714	113,507	125,858	127,204	128,763	Total program expenses	128,714	113,507	125,858	127,204	128,763			
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				<p>of this total budget what is the split between government and industry funding, for:</p> <p>a. 2009-10; 2010-11; 2011-12; 2012-13; 2013-14</p> <p>21. Of the remaining funding available for leisure consumer marketing, what is the financial allocation to domestic marketing for:</p> <p>a. 2009-10; 2010-11; 2011-12; 2012-13; 2013-14</p> <p>22. Of the remaining funding available for leisure consumer marketing, what is the financial allocation for international marketing for each international market (eg. China, Japan, UK etc.) and what is the currency in which marketing is procured for that market, for:</p> <p>a. 2009-10; 2010-11; 2011-12; 2012-13; 2013-14</p> <p>23. Mr McEvoy, could you perhaps take the committee through these 'stretch goals' that everyone in the industry is talking about.</p> <p>a. What are Tourism Australia's 'stretch goals'?</p> <p>b. Do you believe you have the resources to meet these goals?</p>			
AR4	DRET	Bushby and Eggleston	GCCSI	<p>Senator BUSHBY—So they have spent \$29 million on matters other than funding development projects.</p> <p>Ms Sewell—Yes.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—What does that \$29 million comprise?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—That is total expenditure, so it covers the administrative costs of running the institute and a range of other work that they have been doing to advance CCS. It picks up everything from capacity-building workshops in developing countries through to international seminars that they have organised to bring together some of the countries that are leading on CCS to work towards globally acceptable definitions on a range of issues around advancing CCS.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Do you have access to details of how that \$29</p>	E72-E73 Continued on E85-E86 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

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				<p>million is spent?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—Yes. The institute is required to provide us with annual work program and with two six-monthly progress reports a year.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Are you able to provide that on notice to this committee?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—I think I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—I am happy for that to be provided later but I would be very interested in seeing that information. One of the things that I presume some of that \$29 million has been spent on is administration. How many board meetings of the institute have taken place since its creation?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—How regularly do they have their meetings?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—I think they have meetings roughly once a month. A number of those have been by teleconference.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Would you be able take on notice, then, in what format—whether it is telephone, in person or otherwise—each of those meetings was held and, if in person, where they were held?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—Yes.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—To the extent that the board members actually travel to a meeting, is it true that they travel first class.</p> <p>Ms Sewell—I am sorry, Senator, I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Thank you. Can you also tell me how many people have attended each of those meetings?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—How many board members and staff?</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—How many people attend those meetings who would have been financed by the institute to attend those meetings.</p> <p>Ms Sewell—Yes.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Do you have any information that could indicate what the estimated cost of each of these board meetings is—</p>			

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				<p>or any of them?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—No, I do not believe so.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—In that case, could you take on notice how much each of the board meetings has cost the institute in total, including travel, accommodation and other ancillary expenses?</p> <p>Ms Sewell—Yes.</p> <p>Cont...</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—.....Going back to some questions Senator Bushby asked in relation to the Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute; in addition to the questions Senator Bushby asked about where the board travels to and what the class of travel is, could you provide information about accommodation—hotel names and costs—for all of these trips and for all of the other people’s travel that the institute pays for? And can we also have some information on the cost of allowances, meals et cetera that it paid for the travelling party on these trips?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—As was indicated previously, given that we did not have the previous question, we would have to take all those on notice and we will get the answers.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—There are just a couple of other ones on notice, too, in relation to the same question. Does the department’s standard funding agreement include access to the minutes and the remuneration of the personnel involved with the CCSI and the board itself?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—We will take on notice whether or not that question is explicitly in the scope of the funding agreement.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—Can you also table in due course the department’s standard funding agreement and, in addition, the funding agreements for the institute?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—This is clearly a question to take on notice, but can I</p>			

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				<p>clarify the intent of the first part of your question. When you say 'standard funding agreement', I am not sure what you mean.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—You must have a standard agreement with—</p> <p>Mr Clarke—The boilerplate for contracts and grants?</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—No, for travel.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—I see.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—And I presume also for other bodies.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—We would not have a standard agreement on that. Where the department contracts an entity, company or individual to work for it, there is often a provision that we meet their travel costs and there is some arrangement about that. Is that the sort of area you are interested in?</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—That is right. I would have thought that there would be a basic arrangement or set of conditions that were offered to groups that you fund.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—I think I understand the point of your question: what is our normal arrangement where we are paying—</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—I am looking to see if there are any differences between that standard agreement and the agreement struck with the CCSI.</p>			
AR5	DRET	Bushby	GCCSI – Board Remuneration	<p>Mr Clarke—The Australian government has created a Corporations Law not-for-profit company and has deliberately structured that to have as broad a base of membership as possible. The institute has been very successful in establishing a broad based membership. The government chose to be the sole funder during the establishment period. The principal control over the taxpayers' funds is through the funding agreement that the department administers with the institute, where we sign off on the work program and the deliverables that we are getting for the government's money.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—So, in that process, do you have any ability to</p>	E74 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

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				<p>examine remuneration of the board members and decisions that they make?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—I am not aware that we have examined that particular expenditure.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Is there scope within that funding agreement?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—I do not know.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Can you take that on notice, please?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—Certainly.</p>			
AR6	DRET	Milne	Low Emissions Technology Demonstration Fund - HRL	<p>Senator MILNE—So has HRL been back and asked for an extension?</p> <p>Mr Stone—Yes. We are in discussion with HRL in terms of meeting the conditions precedent. Effectively, that means that the extension is in.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—How many extensions have they had already?</p> <p>Mr Stone—I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—I did particularly ask you to come prepared to answer these questions, so why can you not tell me? It is a pretty standard question. If there is a time frame in the precedent of the deed within which they have to actually do something and they have not done it and they have to get an extension then surely you can tell me. This fund is all closed and we should know now how many times they have applied for extensions and how many times they have been given one.</p> <p>Mr Stone—It would be at least three and potentially four, but we would have to check that information for you.</p>	E75 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011
AR7	DRET	Siewert	Exploration Permits – Drilling refusal	<p>Senator SIEWERT—I have heard that lots of times before. How many applications to drill have ever been refused from the company that has been granted an exploration permit? I am not talking about those that have not been taken up; I am asking how many have been</p>	E79-E80 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

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				<p>refused once a company has been granted an exploration permit. You can take that on notice if you cannot answer it.</p> <p>Mr Squire—Just so I understand specifically the question you are asking—you are after the number of wells for which approval has been refused to be granted?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Where they already had an exploration permit or a licence to explore in that particular acreage, yes.</p> <p>Mr Squire—Sure, Senator, I appreciate it. I will have to take that on notice.</p>			
AR8	DRET	Bushby & Eggleston	Ethanol Advice and Policy	<p>Senator BUSHBY—Clearly the responsibility of excise falls with Treasury, but presumably it would be proper for them to consult the department as to the potential impacts on areas of responsibility that fall under this department. I take it they have consulted.</p> <p>Ms Constable—They certainly have consulted.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Have you provided to Treasury your views about what impact that may have on the LPG industry as part of that consultation process?</p> <p>Ms Constable—We have had discussions on that and they are ongoing. Of course, the Treasury portfolio has put out a discussion paper around alternative fuels and a decision on that has been deferred—or the excise on that has been deferred—until 1 December 2011. But the department is not responsible per se for those arrangements.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—I understand they are not responsible. As part of that consultation process, did you provide Treasury with advice that included your view of the potential impacts on the LPG industry from the introduction of that excise?</p> <p>Ms Constable—We have provided some advice, yes.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Are you able to provide the dates on which you provided that advice?</p>	E83-E85 (23/02/2011)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

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				<p>Ms Constable—No.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Will you take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—We will take that on notice. I think it is very unlikely—</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—So it is not a denial—you are not saying you will not provide it; you are saying that you cannot provide it today and will take it on notice?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will take it on notice.</p> <p>Cont.....</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—I agree there is a broader alternative energy policy and issue, but we were just specifically interested in the ethanol issue and the domestic ethanol industry. But I understand what you are saying and I will leave the matter there, because obviously you cannot provide us with details of advice to the Treasury at this stage.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—I take as read what you tell me about the Howard government, which I was not part of. But the fact is we are here and now and are looking at what is the right decision to make now, not what was decided in 2003 or whatever date it may have been. So I am still interested in the extent to which you have provided advice to the minister. I understand that you cannot tell us what that advice was, but can you tell us whether that advice was provided in writing?</p> <p>Ms Constable—Yes.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Would you be able to provide the dates of that advice?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—We will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Thank you. Apart from the dates, which I understand have changed, and the dates of introduction, has anything else changed between the policy that was announced under the coalition government and what the current proposal is?</p>			

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				<p>Mr Clarke—I think we would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Sheldrick—The original announcement was in the 2003-04 budget. In the 2010-11 budget there was an adjustment to the treatment of domestic ethanol compared to imported ethanol. The original proposal would have seen the domestic ethanol lose its advantages more quickly than the imported. The changes in the 2011 budget have extended that period so that parity between the two now does not occur until, I think 2010.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—That is why I mentioned the dates. I acknowledged there was a change in that. I was wondering whether there were any other policy changes?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—Within the alternative fuel package?</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—Particularly with respect to ethanol—between what the minister has pointed out was announced by the previous coalition government and the proposal that is currently being consulted.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—I understand the question but I think we need to take that one on notice.</p>			
AR9	DRET	Ludlam	COAL21 Fund	<p>Senator LUDLAM—Thank you; that is all helpful. I might just put this question on notice. The Australian Coal Association has made a billion-dollar commitment to the COAL21 fund for carbon capture and storage. I am keen to find out how much of that, if any, has actually been spent—not committed to but spent on the various commitments that the Coal Association has made. My understanding is that that was a 10-year commitment, and they are lagging quite seriously in the spending. Could you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—Certainly.</p>	E88 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011
AR10	DRET	Ludlam	Greater Sunrise – greenhouse gas emissions	<p>Senator LUDLAM—I am also interested to know whether the Commonwealth has any idea—because there is nothing on the public record that I am aware of—about the greenhouse gas consequences of the Greater Sunrise project in the Territory. There does not appear to</p>	E88 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

Q No.	Program, Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page and Hearing Date or Written Q	Date response Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>be anything on the public record at all.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—You are talking about what are the forecast emissions from the production of that gas?</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM—That is right. There does not appear to be anything in the EIS, so if you could take that on notice, please.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—Certainly.</p>			
AR11	DRET	Ludlam	Worley Parsons study on natural gas	<p>Senator LUDLAM—Finally, this is a question that I also put to your Environment colleagues. The gas industry says that using natural gas is four to nine tonnes better than using coal. They rest their entire case on a Worley Parsons study in 2008 which was conducted for, I believe, Woodside—and nobody has seen it. All right, that is not true; the Environment bureaucrats have seen it but it has not been put into the public domain. Has the department got it and could you table it for us?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—We do have it. Whether there is any reason why it is not on public record I would have to take on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM—If you could take that on notice—firstly, whether the department agrees with the contentions in that study; and, secondly, whether that could finally be put into the public domain.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—Senator, in taking that on notice can I frame the response. You are asking whether we think that that range of four to nine tonnes—and we understand that this is about Australian LNG displacing coal in a Chinese power station—</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM—That is the model, yes.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—That is the range. So you are asking whether we think that range is realistic and whether we can—</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM—Substantiate it.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—Can we substantiate it and publish it? I am happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>CHAIR—I thank the resources and energy officials for their</p>	E88-E89 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

Q No.	Program, Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page and Hearing Date or Written Q	Date response Rec'd	Date Tabled
				assistance. We will move to Geoscience Australia.			
AR12	DRET/Geoscience Australia	Colbeck	Seismic Testing - Impact on Scallops	<p>Senator COLBECK—I have some very quick questions about some research that was conducted in Bass Strait recently. There have been some allegations around impact on scallops. Just to get my hierarchy straight, it was funded by the Commonwealth through Geoscience Australia. It was approved by Tasmania through their auspices. It was conducted by the Victorian government. So they are effectively the three entities that were involved in that process?</p> <p>Dr Pigram—I think that is correct, Senator.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—What research are you aware of on the public record—or are you aware of, I suppose—in relation to the potential impacts on scallops of seismic testing?</p> <p>Mr Squire—Senator, there is a study on the public record that was undertaken by Exxon Mobil back in 2003-04, from memory, which was a study of the potential impact of seismic operations on the mortality of scallops.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—So 2003?</p> <p>Mr Squire—I will take the question on notice in terms of the exact date of that study, but that is my recollection.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—And what is your recollection of the results of that study?</p> <p>Mr Squire—The conclusions from that study indicated that there was no increased mortality impact on scallops as the result of seismic operations.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—Over what time frame was the study taken? Was it taken in the immediate time frame around the seismic testing or was there any longer tail to the research?</p> <p>Mr Squire—I will take that question on notice if that is okay. I do not recall all of the details of the study.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—I am more than happy to read a report. If you can, perhaps as part of that question, direct me to a website or</p>	E89 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

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				<p>somewhere where I might be able to pick up that report.</p> <p>Mr Squire—Certainly. There has been a more recent study as well as a result of the issues experienced towards the end of last year, and we will certainly look to see whether we can provide that to you as well.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—But my understanding is that that was taken, again, over a short time frame. I think it was somewhere around six weeks before, during and after the seismic testing. And from the information I have been given, the allegations of impact did not manifest themselves within that the time. I am aware of that report that indicates not much impact, but from the information I have been given the impact has manifested itself over a longer period of time. Is that—</p> <p>Mr Squire—I will take those elements on notice.</p>			
AR13	Geoscience Australia	Colbeck	Scallop Industry – Consultation	<p>Senator COLBECK—You have not had any meetings or discussions with the scallop industry since the seismic testing or since the completion of the study?</p> <p>Mr Squire—I have not had any discussions with the Tasmanian scallop industry on this issue.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—And you are not aware of anyone in Geoscience Australia that has?</p> <p>Dr Pigram—Geoscience Australia is not having those discussions.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—You have not had any claims or correspondence or anything of that nature in relation to this to get a sense of what the effects might be?</p> <p>Dr Pigram—Not that I am aware of, but I am happy to take it on notice and check for you.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—If you would, please. Perhaps you are about to—I don't know.</p>	E90 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011
AR14	DRET	Eggleston	Additional	Senator EGGLESTON —Thank you very much for that answer. The	E96	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

Q No.	Program, Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page and Hearing Date or Written Q	Date response Rec'd	Date Tabled
			Budget Estimates Statements	<p>first key performance indicator for program 4 is:</p> <p>Extent to which tourism interests are considered and reflected in the broader context of Australian Government policy development and implementation, including in relation to labour ...</p> <p>That is in the portfolio budget statement at page 37. To what extent were tourism interests considered and reflected as part of the government's award modernisation process?</p> <p>Ms Madden—I am not sure what document you are referring to, but the portfolio additional estimates has as the first KPI something different to the item that you have just read out.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—It says the KPI for program 4.</p> <p>Ms Rose—Following some feedback from the ANAO regarding our performance indicators in our portfolio budget statements we did a complete review of our key performance indicators and they were published in our portfolio additional estimates statements. We have actually done a complete update of our KPIs and now have a different set for each program, including program 4.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—Thank you very much. So we need to have a look at them.</p> <p>Ms Rose—Would you like a copy of the additional estimates statements tabled?</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—If you would, that would be very helpful. Related to that, to what extent were tourism interests considered and reflected as part of the government's decision to increase the employer funded superannuation guarantee from nine per cent to 12 per cent?</p>	(23/2/11)		
AR15	DRET	Siewert	PTTEP – Publishing of monitoring results	<p>Senator SIEWERT—Thank you. I want to turn quickly to PTTEP. Part of the conditions there is a rigorous monitoring program for 18 months?</p> <p>Ms Constable—That is correct.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—It will be monitored each month—is that correct?</p>	E81 (23/2/11)	12/04/2011	12/05/2011

Q No.	Program, Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page and Hearing Date or Written Q	Date response Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>Ms Constable—Who will be undertaking the monitoring? And I understand that the monitoring plan is still being developed—is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—For clarity on the record, we are talking about the monitoring that will follow the minister’s consideration of the show cause notice and the action plan?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Yes. The action plan has been released. Some commitments were made by the government—requirements, I should say, that they put on the company that were going to require monitoring. So I am asking about who is going to be doing the monitoring—</p> <p>Mr Clarke—The department will be responsible for the monitoring, reporting to the minister, but I am sure we will contract in expertise to assist us with that monitoring task.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Has the monitoring plan been developed?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—So it is ready to go? You will then be looking for somebody to do that monitoring?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—Yes. We are talking to the potential experts about their assistance to us in that process.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Will that information then be publicly released?</p> <p>Mr Clarke—You are familiar, obviously, with the minister’s announcement about the shape of it?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Yes.</p> <p>Mr Clarke—The commitment of the government to do the monitoring, and the undertaking of the company to cooperate in that, is captured in a deed of agreement. That deed has been finally executed in the last 48 hours and we will be publishing that deed on our website. That is the formal document that scopes the undertakings of the company and the role of the government in the monitoring. As to whether or not the results of the actual monitoring will be</p>			

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				published, I am not sure that a decision has been made on that. I do not know. I would have to take that one a notice.			