

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

Question: AET 173

Topic: CSIRO Assessment consistent with Treasury

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Senator Cameron asked:

Senator CAMERON—During the inquiry that you gave evidence to, which was the Senate Select Committee on Climate Policy back in June 2009, Dr Heinz Schandl of CSIRO told the committee that overall the number of jobs will increase over the next two decades. There will be 2.5 to 3.3 million new jobs and 230,000 to 340,000 of these new jobs are in those sectors which have been identified as high impact sectors with regard to resource use, energy use and emissions. Is that CSIRO assessment consistent with Treasury's assessment?

Ms Quinn—I am not familiar with the details that you have articulated. I would be happy to take that question on notice and provide an assessment.

Answer:

The CSIRO assessment, contained in *Growing the Green Collar Economy: Skills and labour challenges in reducing our greenhouse emissions and national environmental footprint*, is broadly consistent with the Treasury modelling contained in the Government's report *Strong growth, low pollution: modelling a carbon price*, released in July 2011.

The Treasury modelling found that Australia would continue to achieve strong trend economic growth while making deep cuts in emissions. National employment is projected to increase by 1.6 million jobs from 2011 to 2020, and by 6.0 million jobs to 2050 while carbon pollution emission allocation levels are projected to fall by 80 per cent from 2000 levels in 2050.

The CSIRO also estimated that 230,000 to 340,000 new jobs could be created in high potential environmental impact sectors around the period 2006 to 2016. The Treasury modelling also predicts continuing employment growth in these sectors as a whole.