

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Additional Estimates Hearing 2011-12
15 February 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: Chief Plant Scientist

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator McKenzie

QUESTION No.: AI-48

I understand that DAFF have decided to have their Chief Plant Scientist ‘job share’ with CSIRO. How will this work? In what ways can the roles be combined? What work is being cut to enable this?

ANSWER

A CSIRO employee was on secondment to DAFF from July 2010 to January 2012 and was acting in the role of Principal Scientist in Plant Biosecurity. CSIRO is currently in discussions with DAFF about possible future arrangements which might include the employee working across the two organisations in a liaison role. It is envisaged that the CSIRO officer occupying such a position would remain an employee of CSIRO in their previously funded position. The question of the impact on DAFF of any financial contribution to funding such a position would need to be directed to the department.