

**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

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

**TOPIC:** Sustainable Research Excellence Consultation Paper

**REFERENCE:** Written question - Senator Mason

**QUESTION No.:** AI-187

With reference to the “Sustainable Research Excellence Consultation Paper” released by the Department on 26/8/11 – at the Supplementary Estimates, the Department advised that: “The submission process closed at the end of September and we are in the process now of analysing the submission and the information that has been provided to us through that process. We will from here undertake some modelling and we will then make recommendations to the minister about options for a preferred model”.

1. How is this consultation process progressing?
2. Has the Department yet finished the process of analysing and finalising its consideration of submissions? If not, when will this be completed?
3. What is the status of the modelling and recommendations?

**ANSWER**

1. The consultation process to incorporate the results of Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) in the 2012 funding formula has been completed.
2. Yes, the Department has finished analysing the submissions. The submissions are available at the following address:  
<http://www.innovation.gov.au/Research/ResearchBlockGrants/Pages/SREConsultationPaperInclusionofERA.aspx>
3. The Minister has been advised of the outcomes of the consultation process and modelling. All universities were advised of the final model for 2012 Sustainable Research Excellence (SRE) and funding allocations on 25 January 2012.