

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates 2012

15 – 17 February 2012

**Question: AET 1228**

**Topic: Assistance is provided in the form of subsidies to the mining industry**

**Hansard Page: 16 Feb 2012, pg 36**

**Senator WATERS asked:**

How much assistance is provided in the form of subsidies to the mining industry? You could give me a ballpark figure and then the detailed figures on notice.

Senator Wong: It is hard to know what you mean by subsidy. Are we able to unpack that a little?

Senator Waters: The full gamut of subsidies in the broadest sense of the word. I understand it is a big question, so I am happy for it to be taken on notice, but if you could give me an indication—

Mr Ray: Yes, I think we would take it on notice.

Senator Waters: Perhaps you could give me a ballpark indication off the top of your head.

Mr Ray: Not off the top off my head; I will take it on notice.

**Answer:**

The Productivity Commission *Trade and Assistance Review, 2009-10* provides the following data on Australian Government budgetary assistance to the mining industry.

<i>\$ million (nominal) – 2009-10</i>	<i>Tax</i>		<i>Total budgetary assistance</i>
	<i>Outlays</i>	<i>concessions</i>	
Mining	132.2	416.9	549.1

Some 90 per cent of this assistance arises from businesses in the mining sector accessing general R&D measures, such as the R&D tax concession. (Productivity Commission *Trade and Assistance Review, 2009-10*, Table A.5)