

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2007-08
28 May 2007

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND RESOURCES

TOPIC: Wind Turbine Industry Assistance Package

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard 28/5/07, Pages E92 and 93)

QUESTION No. B1-118

Senator CHRIS EVANS—What were these two organisations that you funded?

Mr Peel—One of them was a company called Aus-Tech Composites based near Burnie, which received a grant of \$47,000.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—What do they do?

Mr Peel—They are using the grant to assist in the development of new fibreglass components for the caravan sector, which allowed the company to continue with its operations without any loss of jobs.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—They were a supplier to the wind turbine operation?

Mr Peel—They were.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—And the other one?

Mr Peel—The other one did not proceed, so the only expenditure will be the \$47,000.

Senator CHRIS EVANS asked:—Who was the applicant?

Mr Peel—We do not usually give out details of the applicant, particularly if grants do not go ahead.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—You have asked us to approve expenditure. You put a proposal under a program that has got nothing to do with it and then you do not want to tell me who you want to pay the money to. It seems a little unusual.

Mr Peel—We are not going to pay it.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—Why are you seeking budget approval?

Mr Peel—At the time that it was put there we thought we were going to require it.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—Has this happened since the budget?

Mr Peel—That is correct. It is since it was put together.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—You are not prepared to tell us to whom you were likely to make the grant?

Mr Peel—I could ask the company if they would be prepared for their name to be released.

ANSWER

Company name is Southern Prospect P/L.