

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2008-09
2-3 June 2008

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL
RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: Staffing

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Eggleston

QUESTION No. BI-11

I have noted a strange coincidence here, Geoff Garrett, CSIRO's Chief Executive is, like ANSTO's Chief Executive, soon to be leaving CSIRO for retirement. This raises the question as to why these senior officials are all abandoning their agencies. Did his decision to retire have anything to do with the cuts? Is he abandoning Australia's "sinking research flagship"?

ANSWER

No. Dr Garrett was appointed by the former Government on 8 January 2001 for an initial term of five years, and was subsequently reappointed in January 2006 for a further three years, with his term to conclude on 31 December 2008.