

**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

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

**TOPIC:** Nanotechnology

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Eggleston

**QUESTION No. BI-9**

Moving beyond issues of health, the global market for nanotechnology was worth \$45 billion, a figure which could reach \$US1 trillion by 2020. How much funding is being spent within the CSIRO on research into this area and has that amount changed since the election?

**ANSWER**

A CSIRO audit in 2006 estimated that approximately \$70 million was invested in that year in broadly defined nanotechnology or nanotechnology-related research. In the 2007-08 Budget CSIRO received \$36.2 million over four years to fund the establishment of the Niche Manufacturing Flagship which is focusing on niche manufacturing opportunities for Australia particularly in industries based on nanotechnology. No significant change to funding of, or expenditure on research into this area, has occurred since the election