

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Budget Estimates 2008-09

2 June 2008

**Question:** BR-2  
**Topic:** Crude Oil Excise  
**Proof Hansard Page:** written

**Senator Cormann asked:**

1. Has the Federal Government, either at the Minister's level or at a departmental level, received any written representations in relation to the proposed \$2.5 billion imposition of excise condensate produced offshore by the North West Shelf Joint Venture?
2. What was the content of those representations?
3. Will a copy of those written representations be made publicly available?
4. What action, if any, has been taken by the Government as a result of those representations?

**Answer:**

1. Three letters to the Prime Minister, copied to the Minister for Resources and Energy and others, have been received: from BP Australia Pty Ltd (BP), Chevron Australia Pty Ltd (Chevron), and the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA). A letter to the Federal Treasurer from Woodside Petroleum Ltd (Woodside), on behalf of the North West Shelf Venture, was also copied to the Minister.
2. Woodside, BP, Chevron and APPEA, expressed their concern that the Government did not consult with industry prior to changing the fiscal arrangements applying to the North West Shelf project. The letters from Woodside and APPEA also covered other matters relating to their dealings with Government.
3. The department does not plan to make these representations publicly available.
4. The Government has noted the representations.