Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11
31 May 2010

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Wind Array Scheme

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard 31 May 2010, E85).

QUESTION No.: BI-28

Senator COLBECK—The Commonwealth Managed Investments project was to provide the Wind array Scheme. It is a series of vertical access wind turbines.
Mr Sexton—That was only one aspect of the overall project but it did include those.
Senator COLBECK—Can you give me some more detail to that. The project description which I have from the website basically talks about that. What else was special about the project?
Mr Sexton—I will have to take that on notice. I do not have the full description.
Mr Peel—We have only got descriptions from the web. So we can take that on notice and let you know.
Senator COLBECK -Can you give me any description of the Shaw Method of Air Conditioning and the Bennett Clayton engine technology.
Mr Peel—Yes, we will get that for you.

ANSWER

The wind array project involves the testing of several vertical axis wind turbines to identify the most suitable for the 385 Bourke Street Melbourne site, and to fit up to 36 vertical axis wind turbines to the roof of the building. Other aspects of the overall project include the installation of a tri-generation system (a state-of-the-art technology which uses only one fuel source to produce power, heating and cooling), an air-conditioning upgrade and additional metering. These other aspects are not funded under the program. The project's intent is to achieve carbon neutrality for the building.

The Shaw Method of Air-conditioning is a "twin-coil system", developed by the Dr Allan Shaw, formerly of the University of Adelaide aimed at energy reduction and air-conditioning performance. It decouples the humidity and temperature loads and separately treats outside and returns air streams. This prevents excessive overcooling and then reheating which occurs in conventional air-conditioning systems.

The Bennett Clayton Engine Technology was developed, invented and patented by Victorian, Mr John Bennett, in the 1990s to enable the "conversion of diesel engines to a range of alternative and/or renewable fuels including LPG, LNG and bio-alcohols (including methanol and ethanol). These engines are designed to operate in traditional heavy-duty applications delivering significant improvements in fuel efficiency, power, and reduced emissions.