

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: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: CSIRO staffing

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard 31 May 2010, E19)

QUESTION No.: BI-8

Senator COLBECK—How many staff within the organisation are working on climate-specific project issues at the moment?

Dr Clark—In terms of our total investments in the environment area this year, we now have \$229 million invested in that, an increase of some \$10 million. We have increased our allocation to both the climate and the water space. Today with us I have Dr Andrew Johnson, who heads that particular group, who can answer any detailed questions that you have on any breakdown that you would require in the climate space.

Senator COLBECK—So that is \$229 million?

Dr Clark—Yes, in the total Environment Group.

Senator COLBECK—How does that relate to staffing?

Dr Clark—I will just call Andrew Johnson, who has that detail. Actually, I would prefer to take that on notice. We do not have the numbers right at hand, unfortunately.

ANSWER

Currently there are around 740 full time equivalent staff deployed to research activities in CSIRO's Environment Group. Of these around 250 are working directly on climate change and climate adaptation activities.

In addition approximately 120 full time equivalent staff are deployed to the Energy Transformed Flagship (in CSIRO's Energy Group) which is focussed directly on alternative energy research for climate change mitigation and approximately 50 full time equivalent staff are deployed to the Sustainable Agriculture Flagship (in CSIRO's Agribusiness Group) focussed on greenhouse gas abatement and carbon storage in rural land spaces.

This makes the total full time equivalent staff deployed to activities relating to climate research approximately 420.