

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: Building Energy Efficiency

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Birmingham

QUESTION No.: BI-80

Please list every building occupied by the Department.

For each building:

- Has an energy efficiency audit been undertaken? If so, what rating was achieved and what action has been taken to improve energy efficiency as a result of any audit undertaken.

ANSWER:

The Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research currently occupies tenancies at sixty three buildings, listed at Attachment A.

The Department has undertaken independent energy efficiency audits in six State and Territory offices and in the Department's main building in Canberra from September 2009 to April 2010.

The State and Territory office audits were level one walk-through energy audits and indicative National Australia Built Environment Rating Scheme (NABERS) ratings. The main Canberra building audit was a level two energy audit and certifiable NABERS rating.

Energy efficiency audits and NABERS ratings (certified and indicative) have been undertaken at the Department's largest sites:

- Industry House, 10 Binara Street, Canberra – certified 3.5 star tenancy rating (whole building 23,959m²), noting that the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism occupies 4,964m²;
- L11, Myer Centre, 170-178 North Terrace, Adelaide – indicative 4 star tenancy rating, the Department occupies 526m²;
- 44 St Georges Terrace, Perth – indicative 1 star tenancy rating, the Department occupies 720m²;
- 100 Creek Street Brisbane – indicative 5 star tenancy rating, the Department occupies 829m²;
- Level 4, 20 Allara Street, Canberra – indicative 5 star tenancy rating, the Department occupies 1750m²;
- Level 11, 161 Collins Street, Melbourne – indicative 1 star tenancy rating, the Department occupies 1961.16m²; and

- Levels 4 and 5, George Street, Sydney – indicative 4.5 star tenancy rating, the Department occupies 2631m².

The energy audits have identified a wide range of recommendations to reduce energy use, which the Department is currently reviewing.

The Department has actioned some recommendations for the Canberra building, including reconfiguring the air conditioning to the data centre to improve air distribution, reducing the running times of the air conditioning to large conference rooms and converting the air conditioning to small meeting rooms and breakout areas to 'on demand' rather than running during office hours.