

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

1 June – 3 June 2010

Question: BET 318

Topic: Regional Infrastructure Fund

Hansard Page: Written

Senator EGGLESTON asked:

1. In the Government's words, under the State Infrastructure Fund, "Resource-rich states will receive relatively more funding, reflecting the greater call on their budgets for investment in infrastructure that supports the ongoing development of the resource industry." Can you provide any more detail on how the fund will be directed to "resource-rich" states? How do you define "resource-rich"?
2. Has Treasury given any thought to how you would resource-rich over non-resource rich? Presumably non-resource rich states will still receive some funding?

Answer:

The Government has indicated that the Regional Infrastructure Fund will be used to reinvest the proceeds of the resources boom in regions to help them meet the needs of communities and increase their capacity for sustainable economic growth. The Government has said at least \$2 billion of this Fund will be allocated to each of Western Australia and Queensland.