

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2011-12
30 May 2011

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: Conflict of Interest Declaration

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 30 May 2011, E32)

QUESTION No.: BI-16

Senator COLBECK: What about other stages through the process? Your project director is a Mr Graham Stacey?

Dr Johnson: Mr Stacey is the project technical director. The project director of the project is Ms Toni Moate, who is deputy chief, marine operations. She is based in Hobart at our marine division.

Senator COLBECK: How was Mr Stacey chosen for that role?

Dr Johnson: We ran an extensive external recruitment process for the position. Mr Stacey was one of a number of candidates that we interviewed.

Dr Johnson: We went to an external provider, given this is, again, a highly specialised role. The unique nature of this vessel requires a very extensive set of skills and we sought assistance from an external provider in that recruitment process. The recruitment process adhered to all the standard procedures and policies that CSIRO would apply to any of its recruitment processes. Mr Stacey was, as I said before, amongst a number of candidates interviewed by selection panels and was determined to be the most suitable candidate for the position.

Senator COLBECK: Does he continue in that role?

Dr Johnson: As I have said, his role is now technical director. He will be based in Singapore to supervise the technical aspects of the build of the vessel.

Senator COLBECK: So his role has changed.

Dr Johnson: Yes, his role has changed. We are now focusing his efforts very much on the technical dimensions of the build, which is where his expertise is best aligned.

Senator COLBECK: So he was initially engaged as the project director—

Dr Johnson: Correct.

Senator COLBECK: and has now changed his role to that of technical director.

Dr Johnson: Correct.

Senator COLBECK: What period of time did he serve in the role as project director?

Dr Johnson: Again, I would have to take that on notice. I do not have those dates in front of me.

ANSWER

Mr Stacey's term as Project Director was from 17 February 2010 to 15 February 2011. Prior to formally taking up his role as Project Director on 17 February 2010, Mr Stacey was employed from 11 January 2010 until 23 January 2010 to undertake duties on the Technical Evaluation Team.