

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, E33)

QUESTION No.: BI-17

Senator COLBECK: During the external selection process, was there a process that looked at dealing with conflicts of interest?

Dr Johnson: Yes. As you can imagine, even though the global shipping industry is large, many of the best people have worked extensively across the industry. All of the candidates declared their previous work history, and that was very transparent.

Senator COLBECK: Were they asked to complete a conflict of interest declaration as part of their employment?

Dr Johnson: Again I would have to take that on notice- whether we went through the formality of doing that. But, as I have said, all candidates were transparent with respect to their previous work history.

Senator COLBECK: But there is no formal declaration process as part of an employment contract?

Dr Clark: Actually, there is. In addition to the contract, we also have a process for making sure that our employees are aware of the code of conduct as well. So it is in addition to the contract requirements.

Dr Johnson: I have just been advised by one of my colleagues that it would be routine for any employee to sign a conflict of interest declaration when they commence employment with CSIRO. Again, I would just have to double-check that that did occur with Mr Stacey, but I would be very surprised if it did not.

Senator COLBECK: Okay. It is fine if you take that on notice.

ANSWER

Mr Stacey was provided with and completed a conflict of interest declaration as part of his engagement with CSIRO.