

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
28 and 29 May 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: R&D Tax Concession - Legal costs

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, Tuesday 29 May 2012, page 30)

QUESTION No.: BI-68

Senator COLBECK: Has the department had any other legal advice or costs in relation to the measure?

Mr Wilson: No. That figure includes for the department for this program.

Ms Butler: I will clarify that. It is external legal expenses. We would, of course, avail ourselves of the services of the internal legal unit that is available within the department. Those costs are just captured in the base of the running costs for the department.

Senator COLBECK: So you have no idea how much you would have expended internally in relation to those costs?

Ms Butler: No. It would be part of our obtaining services and internal advice from our legal branch.

Mr Weber: Can I take on notice how much, if any, amount has been spent by the Innovation division this year on legal advice. I believe that all the money has been spent by AusIndustry, but I would like to check that. So I will take that on notice.

ANSWER

In 2011-12 (as at 19 June 2012), the Innovation Division has spent \$10,001 (GST exclusive) on legal advice relating to the R&D Tax Incentive.