

**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

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

**TOPIC:** Clean Technology Programs

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Bushby

**QUESTION No.:** BI-176

1. At what time and on what day was information first publicly released about the initial 13 grants made under the Clean Technology Investment Program and Clean Technology Food and Foundries Investment program? Other than the specific businesses that were awarded the grants, was any individual or organisation provided with information about these grants at an earlier time – and, if so, who and why?
2. On what date was the first application for assistance under the Clean Technology Investment program received?
3. On what date was the first application for assistance under the Clean Technology Food and Foundries Investment program received?
4. Dr Edwards said at the Estimates hearing of 29 May 2012 that, as at 25 May 2012, 44 applications under the Clean Technology Investment program and Clean Technology Food and Foundries Investment program had been received – and that 15 had been considered at that point. Were those 15 applications the first 15 in chronological order to have been received? If not, what were the reasons for prioritising the assessment of those 15 in particular ahead of the remaining 29 applications?
5. What percentage of the funding is paid at the approval-of-grant stage? If this figure varies from project to project, please indicate the respective figures for those among the first 13 grants that have the (a) lowest and (b) highest percentage of their funding paid up-front.
6. How regularly must milestones typically be met across the life of the first 13 approved projects?
7. What arrangements are formally in place that allow AusIndustry to conduct regular monitoring and evaluation of progress against the stated objectives of these projects?
8. What arrangements are formally in place to recover money from grant recipients where the projects do not meet their intended outcomes?
9. Has AusIndustry made any assumptions or calculations about what percentage of the projects under the five ‘clean energy future’ programs it is responsible for delivering it believes will not achieve their objectives? If so, what is that percentage figure?
10. Among the first 15 applications assessed, what was the smallest total financial amount for any of the proposed projects?
11. Among the first 44 applications received, what was the smallest total financial amount for any of the proposed projects?
12. Among the first 15 applications assessed, what was the largest total financial amount for any of the proposed projects?

13. Among the first 44 applications received, what was the largest total financial amount for any of the proposed projects?
14. Among the first 44 applications received, were any made by businesses with 20 or less employees? If so, how many?
15. Among the first 44 applications received, were any made by businesses with 10 or less employees? If so, how many?
16. How frequently does AusIndustry envisage publicly distributing the list of latest grants made under these programs? And within what time period, following the signing of the grant agreement, is the Department required to publish a record of each grant among the broader list of organisational grants on its website?
17. Has AusIndustry prepared (or is it able to prepare) a summary of the responses on the 396 evaluation forms submitted at the conclusion of the clean technology program seminars to which Ms Butler referred at the Estimates hearing on 29 May 2012? If so, what are/were the summary results of the answers submitted in reply to each of the questions on the forms?

## ANSWER

1. Information on the initial 13 grants awarded under the Clean Technology Investment Program and Clean Technology Food and Foundries Investment Program was publicly released on 7 June 2012 at 11:00am. The department did not provide any information to any individual or organisation other than the grant recipients prior to the announcement.
2. 28 February 2012.
3. 7 March 2012.
4. No. They were the first complete applications with all the necessary information to allow for assessment.
5. Nil. All payments are made in arrears on completion of milestones.
6. The milestone period is determined by the applicant and varies between projects. Each project can have up to six milestones, in addition to a mandatory post-project reporting milestone.
7. The Funding Agreement includes requirements for reporting and provides the Commonwealth with audit and access rights. The Funding Agreement identifies project outcomes and milestones including evidence to be provided to demonstrate milestone completion. Grant recipients are required to report on completion of milestones including provision of specified evidence and grant payments are made on receipt of these reports. They are also required to provide an end of project report including a financial audit of eligible project expenditure and evidence relating to measurement and verification of the carbon savings achieved through the Project. Successful applicants are risk rated and a number of applicants will be subject to technical and financial audits.
8. The Funding Agreement allows for the recovery of grant funds where the project is not conducted in accordance with the details outlined in the Funding Agreement.
9. AusIndustry delivers the Clean Technology Investment Program, Clean Technology Food and Foundries Investment Program, Clean Technology Innovation Program and Steel Transformation Plan. AusIndustry has not made any assumptions or calculations about what

percentage of projects might not achieve their objectives. Clean Technology Focus for Supply Chains is an initiative being delivered by Enterprise Connect. Enterprise Connect has not made any assumptions or calculations about what percentage of the Clean Technology Focus for Supply Chains activities might not achieve their objectives.

10. \$40,643 with a total project cost of \$81,286 (GST exclusive).
11. \$26,170 with a total project cost of \$52,340 (GST exclusive).
12. \$4,829,405 with a total project cost of \$14,488,216 (GST exclusive).
13. \$9,628,657 with a total project cost of \$28,885,970 (GST exclusive).
14. Seven.
15. Four.
16. The Minister may announce successful grants following each decision round. In accordance with the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines, the department publishes details of each grant on its website within seven days of execution of the Funding Agreement.
17. AusIndustry has prepared a summary of the responses on the 396 evaluation forms submitted at the conclusion of the Clean Technology Investment Program seminars. Key points include:
  - a. The majority of attendees heard about the event by email invitation.
  - b. Customer satisfaction was high, with more than 90 per cent of customers scoring 5 out of 5 on the rating scale for the following questions:
    - i. I was well informed on key features of the program.
    - ii. The presentations were delivered appropriately.
    - iii. Presenter/s responded well to issues and questions raised.
    - iv. Overall, this information session was worthwhile attending.
  - c. Customers would benefit from the program mostly by “Reduced Energy Consumption.”
  - d. Customers found the Overview/Scope of the program most useful.
  - e. Over 60 per cent of customers chose “no changes” to the question of ‘what would customers like to see done differently’.
  - f. The majority of attendees were manufacturers.