

INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-06

2 November 2005

Q No.	Division/ Agency	Subject	Proof Hansard Page	Date Answered	Date sent to Senator	Additional Information
SBI-1	Invest Australia	<p><i>Invest Australia activities list</i></p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—I think Mr Jones provided me with a list of Invest Australia activities. I do not know whether the 90 investments talked about here are the same as the ones on the list that you provided to me in response to a previous question on notice. Do you recall that?</p> <p>Mr Jones—I am not sure that I have yet provided you with a list of the successes of 2004-05. I think the lists we provided you with in the past have been in respect of earlier financial years. I am happy to now provide you with a list of the successes for the 2004-05 financial year.</p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Thank you.</p>	E11	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-2	Corporate Division	<p><i>Construction Control 88 and LFA (ACT) Pty Ltd - breakdown of costs</i></p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL-Regarding contracts with Construction Control 88 and LFA (ACT) Pty Ltd for fitout and layout in the new building, Ms Foster undertook to provide a breakdown of the costs for these two consultancies to demonstrate what is covered by each.</p>	E18-19	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-3	Invest Australia	<p><i>Contract with the Nous Group for training program</i></p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—When was that contract let?</p> <p>Mr Jones—I would have to check the specifics. I think it was either early this year or late last year.</p>	E22	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-4	Innovation Division	<p><i>Pilot project for SME information pack and media articles</i></p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—How long is it from the distribution of the packages until the evaluation?</p> <p>Ms Berman—I would have to take that on notice. That is not in the information I have here. But presumably it would be within the next few months, allowing time to do more copies this financial year if necessary.</p>	E23	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-5	Innovation Division	<p><i>Distribution of Information packages - industry breakup</i></p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—What is the industry break-up?</p> <p>Ms Berman—The industry break-up of those receiving them?</p> <p>Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL—Yes.</p> <p>Ms Berman—I will have to also give that to you separately.</p>	E23	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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SBI-6	AusIndustry	<i>VCLP - foreign investment</i> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —I am told that only one of the VCLPs has foreign investment. Mr Peel —The figures I have substantiate that. There is \$915 million available, and \$135 million of that, or 15 per cent, is from foreign sources. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —But is it true that it is only one of them? Mr Peel —I do not have that information here. I would have to take that on notice and let you know.	E24-25	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-7	AusIndustry	<i>VCLP - foreign investment</i> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —So it is \$135 million of the total. Mr Peel —Yes, there is \$915 million in capital commitments, \$780 million from domestic sources, or 85 per cent, and \$135 million, or 15 per cent, from foreign sources. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —And you will track whether that is— Mr Peel —We will check where that \$135 million is, yes.	E24-25	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-8	Invest Australia	<i>Forbes Global CEO Conference - Invest Australia contribution</i> Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —But you do not know what your contribution was as a share of the total cost of running the conference? Mr Jones —That is correct. I can take it on notice whether we do know the answer to that. I think the answer is that we do not know what our contribution was to the total cost. Senator GEORGE CAMPBELL —Perhaps you can take it on notice and, if you can provide us with an answer, provide us with an answer. I would like to know the total cost of the conference as well as your percentage share of it.	E33	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-9	Resources Division	<i>North West Shelf production figures</i> Senator O'BRIEN —In February last year Senator George Campbell asked Mr Hartwell whether it was correct that condensate produced in association with natural gas on the North West Shelf was not excisable. Mr Hartwell told him that that was correct. Senator Campbell then asked: <i>If the same excise provisions were applied to condensate produced with natural gas as are applied to condensate produced with oil, what value could be assigned to forgone revenue from this source for the period from 1 July 2003 to 31 December 2003?</i> Mr Paterson, you responded by saying that extracting the treatment of one element of a production excise and royalty regime from the treatment under the petroleum resource rent tax regime is not something that can be easily done. Isn't it a fact that an estimate can quite easily be made, although it would need to be appropriately qualified? For example, can you provide the production figures for condensate produced on the North West Shelf in association with natural gas for the last two financial years? Mr Paterson —I will take the question on notice.	E34-35	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-10	Resources Division	<i>Figures for condensate produced on the North West shelf</i> Senator O'BRIEN —In doing that, can you tell me now whether the department has figures for	E34-35	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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		<p>condensate produced on the North West Shelf in association with natural gas for the last two financial years?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—We would have those numbers, I am advised. We do not have them with us.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—Okay. The proposition that has been put to me is that, if you have that information, you could provide a range of estimates of excise payable.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—It is a technical question, and I am more than happy to provide a detailed response to your question. I am not prepared to speculate on the response to your question.</p> <p>CHAIR—You are just taking it on notice, aren't you?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—Yes.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—If you are taking it on notice, I am asking you, as that information is available, to provide a range of estimates, which include appropriate qualifications on how they were determined? But, if you are not prepared to do that, can you provide the production figures for condensate produced in association with natural gas for each offshore field and the relevant excise rates or calculations for condensate when it is produced with oil?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I will take that question on notice.</p>				
SBI-11	Resources Division	<p><i>Value of forgone revenue</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—In February 2004 Mr Hartwell told the committee that crude oil excise changes in 2001 had resulted in forgone revenue of \$140 million between July 2001 and February 2004. I would like to find out what the value of forgone revenue between February 2004 and the present time is.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—We will take that question on notice.</p>	E35	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-12	Resources Division	<p><i>Five potential LNG projects</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—Can I take it that no approach has been made to government for assistance by any of those projects on the basis of their perception that there is a disadvantage?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I will check to see whether that is the case. It is not something that would normally pass my desk, in every respect, but I will examine the question and respond.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—Would it go through this department or would it go somewhere else?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—It would normally go through this department these projects on the basis of a perception that there is a competitive disadvantage arising from the excise arrangements?</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—Perhaps you could advise us, on notice, if there is any information relevant to those questions I have just asked. I want to be sure that government is not going to be asked to assist these developments on the basis of providing a level playing field vis-a-vis others that are on the go at the moment.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—As I said, I can never provide an assurance that individuals will not ask for something and use particular bases to assert a position, but we will examine the questions you have raised and respond.</p>	E35-36	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-13	Resources Division	<p><i>Compressed natural gas as an alternative fuel</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—I do recall some discussion—maybe speculation—about the role for compressed natural gas as an alternative fuel, given the rising costs of petroleum products. Has any work been done on that and the potential national need?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I do not know the detail of all of the background to that. My understanding is that compressed natural gas has significant limitations in terms of its potential use. It is likely to</p>	E38-39	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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		<p>be a prospect where you have depot-to-depot activity within metropolitan areas. The infrastructure standing behind it is not something available in remote or regional areas. It has been trialled in buses and it has been trialled in garbage collection vehicles and the like—heavy vehicles that can carry the weight of the compressed natural gas tanks. It is not something that is likely to be taken up in terms of regular domestic transport or automotive use.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—I had thought that, but there has been some media comment. Indeed, a business claimed to be, or proposed to be, involved in domestic vehicle conversion. That is why I asked the question, given the debate about the use of the fuel more widely.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I am not conscious of that. It would be counterintuitive for me. We can certainly take on notice whether we are aware of it anywhere in the portfolio, but it is counterintuitive to suggest it would be taken up or available or economic in normal automobile use. But we can examine that issue.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—I do recall a 35c per litre figure being cited.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—CNG or LPG?</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—CNG; definitely not LPG.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—We are not aware of it. We will take it on notice.</p>				
SBI-14	Tourism Division	<p><i>Report: "Growing the yield for Australian tourism"</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—So the report itself has been made available to the industry advisory group?</p> <p>Ms Kelly—It was a report for the Industry Implementation Advisory Group, which is an industry group that looks at implementation of the white paper.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—That is the report entitled 'Growing the yield for Australian tourism'?</p> <p>Ms Kelly—That is right.</p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—I asked whether the report will be made public. Can the committee have a copy of the report?</p> <p>Ms Kelly—I can take that question to the minister, but when the report was commissioned it was not intended that it would be a public document. It was intended to be a working document for the industry-government monitoring group.</p>	E44	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-15	Tourism Division	<p><i>Restaurant and Catering Industry Action Agenda</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—Is it possible to get on notice a report from the department's perspective as to how the implementation of the strategy is progressing?</p> <p>Mr Noonan—There is a progress report.</p> <p>Ms Murphy—There is a progress report that is in the stage of being released. The implementation group finalised its annual progress report to government in August this year. It is being made available, so we can make a copy available to you.</p>	E49	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-16	Tourism Australia	<p><i>Business events sector</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—Mr Morrison, can you tell the committee how much the business events sector is worth to Australia in terms of exports and domestic tourism?</p> <p>Mr Morrison—I am happy to take that question on notice. I do not have that figure in front of me. It is a very high-yielding sector of our tourism markets. In particular we have had quite a lot of success, particularly out of the Asian markets, for business events, particularly the Amway visits, particularly out of China, new ones out of Taiwan, Korea and so on. Our business event</p>	E51	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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		activities have been very successful.				
SBI-17	Tourism Australia	<p><i>Business event marketing</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—Is any of that part of the \$72.6 million for marketing overseas identifiably focused specifically at the business event market, or is the business event marketing simply built on the generic brand 'Australia' advertising? Mr Morrison—That is in addition to that figure. Senator O'BRIEN—I thought it was. It is not advertising so much as marketing? Mr Morrison—Correct. But you could equally mount a case for putting the two figures together. The bit that is missing in both of the figures that I have talked about is the overhead proportion of actually having experienced business event people in-market, and we have quite a number of those. Particularly in our Asian offices we have quite a few people who work full time on those areas. In our Los Angeles office as well as in our UK office we have dedicated staff working full time on promoting business events and liaising with the states. Senator O'BRIEN—So you could pull out an additional amount to cover those costs as well, could you? Mr Morrison—Out of the overhead to add to the figure that I have mentioned? Yes. Senator O'BRIEN—If you would, I would appreciate that. Mr Morrison—Sure.</p>	E52	18/1/06	18/1/06	
SBI-18	Tourism Division	<p><i>Tourism White Paper</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—How much of the tourism white paper money remains to be spent? Mr Noonan—Spending is proceeding in accordance with the schedule that was set out initially. Of course on any one day money is being spent. So it is a difficult question to answer precisely. Senator O'BRIEN—Perhaps you could take that on notice.</p>	E52-53	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-19	Tourism Australia	<p><i>KPMG audit report</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—When will the KPMG audit report or report auditing the tender be available? Mr Morrison—No request has been made. The report is finished. Senator O'BRIEN—When will it be made available? Is it intended to keep it in-house or has it been published? Mr Morrison—It is an internal document that has been provided to our board. I am sure there are the usual provisions for making requests for those types of documents. Senator O'BRIEN—I will start by making one now. Mr Morrison—I will take it on notice.</p>	E53	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-20	Tourism Australia	<p><i>Appointment of Aden Ridgeway</i></p> <p>Senator O'BRIEN—Was he approached prior to leaving parliament? Mr Morrison—I would have to check my schedule, so I will take that on notice.</p>	E53	18/1/06	18/1/06	

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SBI-21	Tourism Australia	<p><i>Number of international tourists to Australia</i></p> <p>Senator NASH—I will be brief. I have some general tourism questions with perhaps a bit of a regional bent. How many international tourists came to Australia in each of the last two financial years?</p> <p>Mr Morrison—The figures I have here are for the year to 31 August, which are the most recent figures—5.4647 million.</p> <p>Senator NASH—That is the most recent one. The year prior to that? I am happy to take that on notice if you like.</p> <p>Mr Morrison—No, I have that. The year before that it was 5.1573 million.</p> <p>Senator NASH—Are you able to advise how many of those tourists actually travelled to rural and regional areas?</p> <p>Mr Morrison—We can happily give you that information.</p> <p>Senator NASH—We are happy to have that.</p> <p>Mr Morrison—It is available through the international visitor survey where we model that, and we can provide you with those reports.</p>	E54	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-22	Tourism Australia	<p><i>Number of domestic tourists with a rural and regional destination</i></p> <p>Senator NASH—I am quite happy to take any of these on notice as they come up. How many domestic tourists had a rural and regional destination?</p> <p>Mr Morrison—Again, we can pull that out of the national visitors survey, and that is available in those reports and we will get that to you.</p>	E54	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-23	Tourism Australia	<p><i>Value of tourism to the Australian economy</i></p> <p>Senator NASH—How much is tourism worth to the Australian economy in general and are you able to specifically look at that worth to rural and regional areas?</p> <p>Mr Morrison—We are able to break it down by domestic and international, so it is about \$73 billion in total, putting domestic and international together. We are able to then model what that split-out is into regional and to capital cities based on the work we do with the international visitors survey and the national visitors survey. We can provide that breakdown to you.</p>	E54	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-24	Tourism Division	<p><i>Tourism sector employment</i></p> <p>Senator NASH—How many people does the tourism sector employ? Again, can you break that into metropolitan and non-metropolitan?</p> <p>Mr Morrison—Roughly 550,000. I am not sure whether the employment figures can be broken down by regional—</p> <p>Ms Murphy—We will look into it and see whether we can, but I am not sure.</p>	E54	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-25	Tourism Australia	<p><i>Road tourism strategy</i></p> <p>Senator NASH—Also, could you please give an update on the road tourism strategy?</p> <p>Mr Morrison—The road tourism strategy is one we continue to work on with the department.</p>	E55	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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		The department may want to comment on that, but I have some other notes here. I am happy to take that one on notice.				

Written Questions on Notice

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SBI-26	Geoscience Australia	Webber	<i>Tsunami Warning system in the Indian Ocean</i> Please update the Committee on the work done by Geoscience Australia this year on the Tsunami Warning System in the Indian Ocean.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-27	Geoscience Australia	Webber	<i>Monitoring stations to detect atomic explosions</i> I noticed from press reports that there has been some analysis done that shows that the monitoring stations set up to detect atomic explosions could help predict the path of a tsunami, are you aware of that work?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-28	Geoscience Australia	Webber	<i>Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organisation data</i> Does Geoscience Australia have any views about the use of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organisation data to help in the detection and prediction of tsunami events?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-29	Geoscience Australia	Webber	<i>Detection of atomic events</i> Are any elements of your existing detection system used to assist in the detection of atomic events?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-30	Geoscience Australia	Webber	<i>Sea survey missions</i> In relation to your sea survey missions – are there any surveys currently underway?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-31	Geoscience Australia	Webber	<i>Detection of illegal activity</i> Do your survey crews assist other agencies in the detection of illegal activity such as fishing whilst they are undertaking their normal activity?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-32	Geoscience Australia	Webber	<i>Steps taken in the event that surveys detect an illegal activity</i> What steps would be taken in the event that your surveys detected any illegal activity?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-33	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Are the guidelines for the Low Emission Technology Fund now up on your website?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-34	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Please provide an overview of how the Low Emission Technology Fund will operate.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-35	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> The guidelines for the Low Emission Technology Fund state that any Commonwealth funding must be matched by private funding on a 1 dollar for 2 dollar basis. Can you explain over what period of time that matching can be; as the guidelines make it clear that the money does not have to be matched at the start of the project.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-36	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> How long do you anticipate that the projects will run?	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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SBI-37	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Given that the project was announced to operate until 2019 there must be a view in Ausindustry about the duration of projects – if so what is it?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-38	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> If a project was to run over five years will the Commonwealth provide its contribution spread out over the five years or up front?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-39	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Please outline why the Low Emission Technology Fund was announced last June and it is now about 16 months later that the Fund is open for application.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-40	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Will the geosequestration projects be eligible under the fund?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-41	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> How will the geosequestration projects be tested from a scientific point of view?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-42	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> (a) There seems to be some argument in the scientific community about the long term viability of geo-sequestration projects. Who will Ausindustry be consulting to determine scientific validity? (b) Will it be internal or external to the agency?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-43	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Given that the project must be commercially viable in the period 2020 to 2030 what happens when a project fails in its ability to be commercialised?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-44	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Is it possible that money can be allocated under the Low Emission Technology Fund and then simply fail in the commercialisation test?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-45	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> The guidelines state that a joint venture would not be acceptable. How will you treat an application for a particular project that may have multiple partners? In the case of resource projects that may involve a single field with many partners – will the application be considered?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-46	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Given that the application process does not close until March 2006 can you indicate whether you expect any funding to be allocated in the current financial year?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-47	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i>	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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			How long do you think it will be after next March that approval may be given?			
SBI-48	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Are you aware of any companies that have held off on starting projects waiting for the Low Emission Fund to start up?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-49	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Can you explain why it is possible that eligible project costs can include salaries? Can you explain why it is also possible that shareholders and director's salaries can be included as an eligible cost?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-50	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> I am assuming that any projects approved under the fund will have to pass any environmental checks of state or Commonwealth jurisdiction. If that is the case will the grant be paid after all such checks are completed?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-51	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> Is the fund essentially about cherry picking projects that may or may not be successful? It is a lot of Commonwealth funding for projects that may or may not work. What are the safeguards for taxpayers in a Fund that is about choosing one over the other based on what may or may not be commercialised in a period of the next twenty or so years?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-52	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> How much interest has been expressed in the Low Emission Technology Fund since the documentation was made available on the website?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-53	AusIndustry	Webber	<i>Low Emission Technology Development Fund</i> How many calls to the Hotline have been taken since it started?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-54	Innovation Division / Corporate	Campbell	<i>Innovation Investment Fund and Neo</i> I understand that a review of the Innovation Investment Fund (IIF) is to be taken to cabinet at the end of this year. Is this correct? What will this review incorporate?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-55	AusIndustry	Campbell	<i>Innovation Investment Fund and Neo</i> I also understand that AusIndustry has written to Neo Technology Ventures, threatening to withdraw its IIF licence if it did not resecure its private investors. Is this correct? Can the department elaborate on this situation?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-56	AusIndustry	Campbell	<i>Innovation Investment Fund and Neo</i> How much has the Government granted to Neo Technology Ventures to date?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-57	AusIndustry	Campbell	<i>Innovation Investment Fund and Neo</i> How will the investment's of AusIndustry be affected if the Neo IIF licence is withdrawn?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-58	AusIndustry	Campbell	<i>Innovation Investment Fund and Neo</i>	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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			Why has the department chosen to seek to terminate Neo Technology Ventures' licence at this stage?			
SBI-59	AusIndustry	Campbell	<i>Innovation Investment Fund and Neo</i> Should the licence be terminated, will it be transferred to another manager?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-60	Industry Policy	Campbell	<i>China FTA</i> Can you provide an update on the Department's involvement in the China FTA?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-61	Industry Policy	Campbell	<i>China FTA</i> Can you explain the nature and process of consultations that are taking place?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-62	Industry Policy	Campbell	<i>China FTA</i> Can you outline the forward schedule for the FTA process from here?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-63	Tourism Division	Campbell	<i>Minister Bailey's Industrial Relations Comments</i> In a 12 August Press Release from Minister Fran Bailey, she states that, <i>"The industrial relations reforms will deliver major overall benefits to tourism operators. Flexibility in the workplace will promote job growth and productivity, which can only be seen as a positive for the tourism industry.</i> <i>"The proposed reforms provide an opportunity for tourism operators to tailor their workforce to provide a higher quality and more efficient service to tourists."</i> (a) Is the Department aware of these comments? (b) Did the Department advise the Minister on the subject of this statement? (c) Can the Department comment on the rationale behind this comment? (d) Has the Department conducted any studies or done any economic modelling to underpin this comment? (If not), is this the Minister's own view? Is it supported by any work the Department has done?	18/1/06	18/1/06	
SBI-64	MEC	Campbell	<i>Minister McFarlane's Japan Trip with the Auto Industry Strategic Group (AISG)</i> I refer to the Minister's press release of 21 September that states: <i>Mr Macfarlane leaves this week with an auto industry delegation, representatives from the Automotive Industry Strategic Group, for Tokyo to press the case for greater Australian involvement in global auto manufacturing supply chains.</i> <i>"We will be delivering the message in person to the decision makers in Tokyo – and Detroit next year – that Australian manufacturers deserve greater consideration in global supply chains because of our proven ability to supply competitively."</i> <i>"This is about promoting one Australian auto and components brand, based on our ability to</i>	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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			<p><i>produce quality and innovative products. I think it's a message which needs to be heard firsthand in the overseas head offices," said Mr Macfarlane.</i></p> <p>(a) Was this trip an industry led initiative or did the Minister take the lead? (b) When was it first suggested? (c) What role did the Department have in the meetings and its preparations? (d) Who did the Minister meet with? (e) What conclusions / outcomes were reached?</p>			
SBI-65	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>Minister McFarlane's Comments to the FAPM</i></p> <p>I refer to a 25 July article in the AFR entitled 'Drive to keep local car jobs' which states that: <i>"Rather than international competition, [the Minister] blamed [auto component company] closures on recent enterprise deals with unions...and increased flow-on cost pressure on component makers."</i></p> <p>(a) Is the Department aware of this? (b) Did the Department advise the Minister in relation to this? (c) How does the department rate the general influence of international competition in this sector (eg the rise of China etc)? (e) Is this more or less a factor than enterprise bargaining arrangements at individual companies? (f) Has the Department conducted any studies or done any economic modelling to underpin this reasoning?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-66	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>What is the text of the Minutes of the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) meeting of Thursday, 26 May in relation to any items dealing with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) access to premises standard?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-67	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>(a) What is the text of the "preliminary advice on the Premises Standard for Ministers' consideration" to Attorney-General Ruddock and Industry, Tourism and Resources Minister Macfarlane, provided after the 26 May Board meeting? (b) Was this "preliminary advice" provided to any other federal, State or Territory Ministers or Departments? <i>(For mention of "preliminary advice" see Written Question on Notice No.61; Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio, Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 30-31 May 2005)</i></p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-68	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>Has the "additional analysis and research on the Premises Standard" undertaken by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) been completed and, if so, when and where was it submitted to Ministers and which Ministers and Departments? If not, when is it anticipated that it will be completed?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-69	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>What is the text of any completed "additional analysis and research on the Premises Standard"?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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SBI-70	MEC	Campbell	<i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i> Given that there was a comprehensive benefit-cost analysis for the Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) made public for consultation about the draft Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) access to premises standard in January 2004, why has there been a need for "additional analysis and research on the Premises Standard"?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-71	MEC	Campbell	<i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i> (a) What is the cost of the "additional analysis and research on the Premises Standard and what budget item does it come under in the ABCB budget? (b) Who is undertaking this "additional analysis and research on the Premises Standard and what is the text of their brief(s)? <i>(For mention of "additional analysis and research on the Premises Standard" see Written Question on Notice No.61; Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio, Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 30-31 May 2005)</i>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-72	MEC	Campbell	<i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i> Can you provide the committee with copies of: (a) The full text of the benefit-cost analysis/ study, and any appendices or attachments, submitted to the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) for the Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) in relation to the draft Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) access to premises standard of January 2004; (b) The full text of any further benefit-cost analysis/ study submitted to the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB), in addition to the study in a) (it is understood that at least one more study was conducted to seek to corroborate the findings in a)); (c) The Building Access Policy Committee (BAPC) final document and recommendations to the 26 May ABCB meeting, and all other documents at that ABCB meeting related to the DDA access to premises standard.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-73	MEC	Campbell	<i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i> Have there been further discussions of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) access to premises standard by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) since its meeting of Thursday, 26 May?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-74	MEC	Campbell	<i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i> (a) On what occasions and what is the text of the minuted deliberations of the Board? (b) What has been the outcome on each occasion?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-75	MEC	Campbell	<i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i> What is the text of any advice provided by the ABCB to the Attorney-General Ruddock and Industry, Tourism and Resources Minister Macfarlane, subsequent to the "preliminary advice" following the 26 May ABCB meeting?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-76	MEC	Campbell	<i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i> Does the latest DDA Premises Standard recommended to the federal Ministers by the Australian Building	23/12/05	23/12/05	

Q No.	Division / Agency	Senator	Subject	Date answered	Date sent to Senator	Additional Information
			Codes Board (ABCB) provide equality of access for everyone to public and commercial buildings including workplaces (such as offices), in keeping with the objectives of the DDA?			
SBI-77	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>Commission's Recommendation 14.1:</p> <p>Section 31 of the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i> should be amended to clarify that disability standards cannot alter in a fundamental way the scope of the Act. The scope should only be altered via amendment of the Act, not via disability standards." (tabled in Parliament on 14 July 2004)</p> <p>Will the government ensure that all new workplaces and existing workplaces undergoing major alterations or extensions will provide equal access for everyone, in keeping with the Government's workforce participation policies for people with disabilities and older people?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-78	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>If equality of access and use is not ensured by means of the DDA Premises Standard, how will it be possible for workforce participation of older people and other people with mobility impairments to substantially increase?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-79	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>What date was the latest DDA Premises Standard recommended to the federal Ministers by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) transmitted to the Ministers? (For mention "that any Premises Standard will be compliant with the DDA" see <i>Written Question on Notice No.63; Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio, Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 30-31 May 2005</i>)</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-80	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>With what groups or organisations have the Attorney-General Ruddock or Industry, Tourism and Resources Minister Macfarlane or any other government Ministers or any of their advisers met, on what date(s) and who was present; where discussions in relation to the DDA access to premises standard took place?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-81	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>When will the federal government consult with state and territory governments about any proposed DDA access to premises standard, what timelines are involved, and what form will that consultation take?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-82	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>Will the final Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) access to premises standard be able to be incorporated into the Building Code of Australia (BCA) prior to the May 2007 annual BCA amendments and, if so, how?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-83	MEC	Campbell	<p><i>DDA Access to Premises Standard & Building Code of Australia</i></p> <p>Is the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) and the Department ensuring that equality of access for all is the overriding concern in the work on the DDA Access to premises standard?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-84	MEC	Campbell	<i>Australian Building Codes Board accessible housing research</i>	23/12/05	23/12/05	

Q No.	Division / Agency	Senator	Subject	Date answered	Date sent to Senator	Additional Information
			(a) On what dates have Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) meetings discussed accessible housing? (b) What matters were discussed and what is the text of the Minutes of Board discussions in relation to any items dealing with accessible housing?			
SBI-85	MEC	Campbell	<i>Australian Building Codes Board accessible housing research</i> (a) What applications have been made and/ or supported by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB), when and to whom, to conduct accessible housing research? (b) What are the dates of the application(s), including the date of stages in a graduated application process, and what is the date at which each of the application(s) were determined to be unsuccessful or the date when the success of the application was determined and the dates when the research was commenced and completed?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-86	MEC	Campbell	<i>Australian Building Codes Board accessible housing research</i> (a) What consultancy or consultancies have been advertised and/ or awarded in relation to accessible housing? (b) What payment has there been and/ or has been agreed to for this consultancy or for each of the consultancies? (c) What was/ is the commencement date and termination/ completion date for each consultancy and, where the consultancy was terminated, the reason for the termination?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-87	MEC	Campbell	<i>Australian Building Codes Board accessible housing research</i> Please provide a copy of: (a) the full text of all applications, including stages in a graduated application process, made and/ or supported by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) for research on accessible housing to be conducted, and any research reports that resulted from such applications (b) the full text of the expression of interest/ tender brief for each accessible housing consultancy (c) the full text of the detailed methodology/ plan, agreed between the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) and the consultant(s), for each accessible housing consultancy (d) the final report received by the ABCB for each accessible housing consultancy.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-88	MEC	Campbell	<i>Australian Building Codes Board accessible housing research</i> Given that the proportion of the Australian population over 65 years of age is projected to double to more than 25% by 2050 and that very little housing presently is suitable for optimal independent functioning by older people and people with mobility impairments; and also given that most people with disabilities and older people cannot afford the substantial expenditure of modifying their homes to make them optimal for independent functioning and government financial support for such modifications is grossly inadequate; what priority is the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) and the Dept of Industry, Tourism and Resources giving to ensuring that there is ready availability of housing which maximises independence for people with disabilities and older people thus providing them with real housing choices?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-89	OSB	Campbell	<i>Small Business Regulation</i> (a) The department has developed a measure to quantify the impact of red tape. Please elaborate on the rationale for devising the model.	23/12/05	23/12/05	

Q No.	Division / Agency	Senator	Subject	Date answered	Date sent to Senator	Additional Information
			(b) Why work on this model now, why not before? (c) Have you quantified the cost of red tap reduction in aggregate. (d) Can you model be applied to evaluation of the compliance impact of taxation legislation? (e) The treasurer has conceded that 1600 pages of the tax act are redundant. Please use your model to quantify the cost of these redundant pages.			
SBI-90	OSB	Campbell	<i>Implementation of the Small Business Debt Initiative (SBDI)</i> Does ITR believe that ATOs debt recovery strategy will have costs for small business.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-91	OSB	Campbell	<i>Implementation of the Small Business Debt Initiative (SBDI)</i> How many small business are forced into default as a result of tax debts.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-92	OSB	Campbell	<i>Implementation of the Small Business Debt Initiative (SBDI)</i> Will DITR be making a formal submission to the IGT in relation to the ATO's small business debt initiative.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-93	OSB	Campbell	<i>Industrial Relations Reforms</i> (a) The total size of the IR legislation tabled today is 600 pages. What will be the compliance cost of dealing with the new legislation? Can this be put into the departmental model for costing compliance effects on business? (b) Do you expect that the average small business person will be able to deal with the legislation without assistance? (c) Will this law increase or reduce the legislation compliance burden in the short term?	18/1/06	18/1/06	
SBI-94	OSB	Campbell	<i>Small Business Interest Rate Relief Program</i> (a) I refer to the Small Business Interest Rate Relief Program. I understand that there were 452 applications for this program and 182 businesses approved for the program? (b) Did Centrelink record electorate information on these businesses? In response to a question on notice to the member for Hunter the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources was able to provide an electorate breakdown of the approved businesses but did not provide details on applications. (c) Can your department provide me with a breakdown of the applicants by electorate?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-95	DITR	Forshaw	<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i> How much funding has been provided by the Australian Government to the Australian Stem Cell Centre (ASCC) since 2002? Please provide a break-up of this funding by Department and Agency.	18/1/06	18/1/06	
SBI-96	DITR	Forshaw	<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i> Is the ASCC required to report to the Federal Government on how it has expended such funds?	18/1/06	18/1/06	
SBI-97	DITR	Forshaw	<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i> If so, have these reports been provided to the Government? Please provide a copy of the reports to the Committee if available.	18/1/06	18/1/06	

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SBI-98	DITR	Forshaw	<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i> Who owns the intellectual property if any, resulting from the use of these funds?	18/1/06	18/1/06	
SBI-99	DITR	Forshaw	<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i> Does the Government believe that it, and the Australian people, have received value for money through the allocation and use of these funds by ASCC.	18/1/06	18/1/06	
SBI-100	Corporate and agencies	Fielding	<i>Travel expenditure</i> How much money has the portfolio spent on domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-101	Corporate and agencies	Fielding	<i>Travel expenditure</i> How much money has the portfolio spent on overseas airfares for each of the last three financial years?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-102	Corporate and agencies	Fielding	<i>Travel expenditure</i> How much money has the portfolio spent on economy class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-103	Corporate and agencies	Fielding	<i>Travel expenditure</i> How much money has the portfolio spent on business class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-104	Corporate and agencies	Fielding	<i>Travel expenditure</i> How much has the portfolio spent on first class domestic airfares for each of the last three financial years?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-105	Corporate and agencies	Fielding	<i>Travel expenditure</i> What would be the estimated financial year dollar saving if all public servants in the portfolio travelled economy class for flights of less than one and a half hours duration?	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-106	Corporate and agencies	Murray	<i>Senate Order for departmental and agency contracts</i> What guidance is provided to staff with responsibilities for contract negotiations specifically about the requirements of the Senate Order? If relevant guidance is not provided, please explain why this is the case.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-107	Corporate and agencies	Murray	<i>Senate Order for departmental and agency contracts</i> What training and awareness sessions are provided, either in-house or through other training providers (eg. DOFA, APS Commission or private firms) in respect of the Order? Please provide a list of the dates, the identity of the training providers and the content of the training that staff attended in 2005. If training and awareness sessions are not provided, please explain why this is the case.	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-108	Corporate and agencies	Murray	<i>Senate Order for departmental and agency contracts</i> Has the department/agency revised its procurement guidelines to incorporate the new Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines that took effect from 1 January 2005, particularly with respect to the confidentiality	23/12/05	23/12/05	

Q No.	Division / Agency	Senator	Subject	Date answered	Date sent to Senator	Additional Information
			elements contained in those guidelines? If so, when did this occur and can a copy be provided? If not, what is the cause of the delay and when will the revision occur?			
SBI-109	Corporate and agencies	Murray	<p><i>Senate Order for departmental and agency contracts</i></p> <p>ANAO audits for the last three years have revealed a consistently low level of compliance across most agencies with DOFA confidentiality criteria (February 2003) for determining whether commercial information should be protected as confidential. The ANAO's latest report on the Order (No.11 2005-2006, September 2005) states that departments and agencies need to give higher priority with this important requirement of the Senate Order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What specific measures have been or will be taken to address this problem, give it higher priority and raise compliance levels? • What guidance and training are provided to staff about the confidentiality criteria and the four tests employed to determine whether information should be protected? <p>What internal auditing or checking is performed to test compliance in this area? If none is performed, why not and is the agency considering the adoption of internal controls and checks?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-110	Corporate and agencies	Murray	<p><i>Senate Order for departmental and agency contracts</i></p> <p>What problems, if any, has the agency and/or relevant staff experienced in complying with the Senate Order? What is the nature and cause of any problems? What measures have been, or could be, adopted to address these concerns?</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-111	e-Business and agencies	Conroy	<p><i>Performance of Information Technology Outsourcing arrangements</i></p> <p>(a) Please provide details of total departmental/organisational spending on Information and Communications Technology products and services during the last 12 months.</p> <p>(b) Please break down this spending by ICT function (eg communications, security, private network, websites).</p> <p>(c) Was this spending in line with budget forecasts for this 12 month period?</p> <p>(d) If not, please provide details of:</p> <p>(i) The extent that ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period;</p> <p>(ii) Details of specific ICT contracts which resulted in department/organisation spending in excess of budget forecasts for this 12 month period;</p> <p>(iii) The reasons ICT spending exceeded budget forecasts for this 12 month period.</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	

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SBI-112	e-Business and agencies	Conroy	<p><i>Performance of Information Technology Outsourcing arrangements</i></p> <p>Please provide details of any ICT projects that have been commissioned by the Department/organisation during the past 12 months that have failed to meet designated project time frames (ie have failed to satisfy agreed milestones by agreed dates).</p> <p>For such projects that were not completed on schedule, please provide details of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The extent of any delay; (ii) The reasons these projects were not completed on time; (iii) Any contractual remedies sought by the Department/organisation as a result of these delays (eg penalty payments). 	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-113	e-Business and agencies	Conroy	<p><i>Performance of Information Technology Outsourcing arrangements</i></p> <p>Please provide details of any ICT projects delivered in the past 12 months that have materially failed to satisfy project specifications.</p>	23/12/05	23/12/05	
SBI-114	e-Business and agencies	Conroy	<p><i>Performance of Information Technology Outsourcing arrangements</i></p> <p>Please provide details of any ICT projects that were abandoned by the Department/organisation within the last 12 months before the delivery of all project specifications outlined at the time the project was commissioned.</p> <p>(a) For such abandoned projects, please provide details of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Any contractual remedies sought by the Department as a result of the abandonment of these projects. (ii) Any costs of re-tendering the ICT project. 	23/12/05	23/12/05	