

INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2008–09

Written Questions on Notice

Q No	Senator	Agency	Question	Date answered	Date sent to Senator	Additional Information
<i>Climate change</i>						
SI-1	Boswell	DIISR	What if any steps have been taken to estimate the costs of the government's response to climate change including the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme for every department, agency and program within this portfolio? What are the costs and estimated costs identified (reported separately)? Have any costs been included in forward estimates and if so where?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i>						
SI-2	Boswell	DIISR	How long has the Australian Stem Cell Centre been operating?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i>						
SI-3	Boswell	DIISR	Please provide a list of the scientific breakthroughs the Centre has been responsible for?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i>						
SI-4	Boswell	DIISR	How much government funding has been allocated to the Centre – from federal and state governments?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i>						
SI-5	Boswell	DIISR	Why was the Chief Executive Stephen Livesey sacked by the board a couple of months ago?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i>						
SI-6	Boswell	DIISR	The Australian reported on 6 September this year that a review of the centre conducted this year is understood to have made a number of criticisms. Can you tell us what those criticisms were and what action the Government is going to take as a result?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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<i>Australian Stem Cell Centre</i>						
<u>SI-7</u>	Boswell	DIISR	The Australian (6/9/08) also reported that “Australia’s bid to become a world leader in stem cell science has been plunged into turmoil by the mass resignation yesterday of the country’s premier research organisation in the field.” What action has been taken to restore Australia’s reputation as a world leader in stem cell science at the Australian Stem Cell Centre?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Staffing</i>						
<u>SI-8</u>	Abetz	DIISR	How many permanent staff have been recruited since the budget estimates? What level are these staff? How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates? Since budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Reduction of staffing numbers as a result of budget cuts</i>						
<u>SI-9</u>	Abetz	DIISR	Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? If so, where and at what level?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Program underspends</i>						
<u>SI-10</u>	Abetz	DIISR	How many programs were underspent in the 07-08 financial year? What requests have been made to roll-over underspends to 2008-09? Were these requests successful?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Media monitoring</i>						
<u>SI-11</u>	Abetz	DIISR	How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Staffing</i>						
<u>SI-12</u>	Abetz	DIISR	For each Minister in the portfolio, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how many staff based in the electorate office; • what is the MOPS classification of each staff member based in the electorate office; • please provide the duty statement of each staff member in the electorate office; 	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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			and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in relation to personal staff based in the electorate office, please list the supporting Department for each. 			
Government advertising						
SI-13	Abetz	DIISR	What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken, or are planning to undertake? For each program, what is the total spend?	12/12/2008 16/01/2009	12/12/2008 16/01/2009	Initial answer Further answer
Hospitality						
SI-14	Abetz	DIISR	What is the Department's hospitality spend in the year to date? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
Hospitality						
SI-15	Abetz	DIISR	For each Minister's office, please detail total hospitality spend in the year to date. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
Ministerial travel						
SI-16	Abetz	DIISR	Have the Ministers travelled overseas on official business since Budget Estimates? If so, where was the travel and what was the duration? What was the total cost of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) travel b) accommodation, and c) any other expenses? How many Ministerial staff or family accompanied the Ministers For these staff/family what was the cost of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) travel b) accommodation, and c) any other expenses? How many officers from the Department accompanied the Ministers In relation to these Departmental officers, what was the total cost of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) travel b) accommodation, and c) any other expenses? 	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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<i>Freedom of Information</i>						
<u>SI-17</u>	Abetz	DIISR	Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests? How many FOI requests has the Department received? How many have been granted or denied? How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Departmental Liaison Officers</i>						
<u>SI-18</u>	Abetz	DIISR	How many Departmental Liaison Officers are currently allocated to each Minister? Do these DLOs provide any policy advice?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Community Cabinet</i>						
<u>SI-19</u>	Abetz	DIISR	What was the cost of the Ministers' travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates? How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for these Cabinet meetings? What was the total cost of this travel?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Green Car Fund</i>						
<u>SI-20</u>	Abetz	DIISR	How many new jobs will the \$35 million Toyota grant bring to Australia? Is the grant to build a plug-in hybrid or a "regular" hybrid? Will it or will it not have lithium-ion batteries?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Green Car Fund</i>						
<u>SI-21</u>	Abetz	DIISR	Didn't Toyota announce just two days after later it would build a next generation, plug-in, lithium ion Camry "geared toward fleet customers in Japan, (the) United States, and Europe", which will see full-scale production by 2010? Was the Australian Government aware of this impending announcement when it made the decision to grant Toyota \$35 million? What guarantees has the Government got the Toyota will invest in new R&D in green cars in Australia as a result of this grant?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Green Car Fund</i>						
<u>SI-22</u>	Abetz	DIISR	When were Holden and Ford officially advised that the Green Car Fund was open for business before the advertised starting date of 2011?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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<i>Green Car Fund</i>						
<u>SI-23</u>	Abetz	DIISR	What progress has been made in formalising the Green Car fund? – has the Independent Board been formed yet? What about the guidelines? Will it be a competitive process in the future? Are any other proposals for the Green Car fund currently under consideration?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Green Car Fund</i>						
<u>SI-24</u>	Abetz	DIISR	Will the Minister guarantee that no more money will be distributed from the Green Car Fund before the guidelines, as recommended by Steve Bracks', are formalised?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Green Car Fund</i>						
<u>SI-25</u>	Abetz	DIISR	Has any consideration been given to making the Green Car Fund low interest loans – rather than grants - like in the US?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Grants</i>						
<u>SI-26</u>	Abetz	DIISR	In relation to DIISR's various grant programs, what is the usual percentage used on administration?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Appointments</i>						
<u>SI-27</u>	Abetz	DIISR	Was the position of Chair of the Innovation Regions Centre Interim Advisory Board advertised? On what basis was Professor Roy Green appointed to this position? Is it full-time? If not, for how many days is Professor Green expected to do this job between 2/9/08 and 31/12/10?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Innovation Review</i>						
<u>SI-28</u>	Abetz	DIISR	Please provide the total cost of the Cutler Innovation Review. Please provide the total paid to Dr Terry Cutler.	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>TCF Review</i>						
<u>SI-29</u>	Abetz	DIISR	What was the total amount paid to all panellists, including the Chair, for this Review? Please itemise by fees, accommodation, travel, mobile phones, meal allowance etc.	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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<i>Enterprise Connect</i>						
SI-30	Abetz	DIISR	Please detail which leases have been finalised.	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Enterprise Connect</i>						
SI-31	Abetz	DIISR	How many grants in total has Enterprise Connect delivered? Please break-down by State and Territory, by grant number and dollar amount for each grant.	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>ANSTO</i>						
SI-32	Abetz	DIISR	Has the Minister visited ANSTO since becoming Minister?	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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Oral Questions on Notice

Q No.	Senator	Agency	Hearing date	Question	Proof Hansard Page	Date answered	Date sent to Senator	Additional Information
<i>COMET funding</i>								
<u>SI-33</u>	Eggleston/ Abetz	CSIRO	23/10/2008	<p>Senator EGGLESTON—Is CSIRO helping make up the deficit in funding through your COMET— Commercialising Emerging Technologies—program? Could you tell us a little about that?</p> <p>Mr Whelan—The COMET program is run by the department.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—It is not a CSIRO program as such?</p> <p>Mr Whelan—No.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Have there been immediate benefits by collaborations through the COMET funding?</p> <p>Mr Whelan—Certainly. Where there are programs that the government offers through other portfolios and companies take advantage of that, then they use that to collaborate with CSIRO.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—Can you quantify that in any degree?</p> <p>Mr Whelan—I could not do that now, but I could take it on notice.</p>	E42	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Belmont facility, Geelong</i>								
<u>SI-34</u>	Abetz	CSIRO	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—Time is very short. Can I ask you take on notice to provide me an update on the wool scourer at Belmont.</p> <p>Mr Whelan—Yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Can I then ask about the Belmont facility in Geelong—do you understand what I am talking about?</p> <p>Mr Whelan—Yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Can you detail how staffing numbers have</p>	E48	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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				<p>changed there? Have they actually shrunk? If so, by what number?</p> <p>Mr Whelan—I cannot give you that information. I will take it on notice. There has been a reduction in staff at that site, yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes, take that on notice.</p>				
Funding cuts								
SI-35	Abetz	CSIRO	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—There was an article in the <i>Canberra Times</i>—I do not often refer to it—on 2 August 2008 titled ‘Cash-starved CSIRO cuts 50 jobs, shuts food plant’. Are you aware of that article?</p> <p>Mr Whelan—Not that specific article.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—I now have about 120 seconds left. Could I ask you to look at that and take on notice as to which matters in that article reflect fact and which might be an embellishment. Of course, I am not asking you to comment about the minister’s responses to some of these things. For example, it states:</p> <p>Among the latest research casualties is cheese science - an area in which Australia is a world leader, supporting a cheese export industry worth more than \$800 million.</p> <p>That is of great concern, not only to the scientific community, of course. As Dr Garrett quite rightly pointed out in his opening statement that has a flow-on consequence right through to the dairy farmer at the gate and to rural families and regional communities. I would be very interested in getting feedback in relation to that.</p> <p>Dr Garrett—We will provide that for you.</p>	E48	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
AusIndustry logo								
SI-36	Fielding	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator FIELDING—There was an advertisement in the paper for the Great Ocean Road that had the Australian government initiative AusIndustry on the logo. Can I just table that? It is out of the <i>Herald-Sun</i> from Friday, 8 August 2008.</p>	E63-E64	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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				<p>...</p> <p>Mr Paterson—It is not uncommon under contractual terms of grants to acknowledge the source of funding in particular advertising approaches. We have not seen the advertisements you are referring to, but it may well be it is just part of a normal or common requirement for there to be an acknowledgement of the source of funding in relation to particular projects.</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—There was a similar ad that did not have the logo. I thought there must have been a reason why it was taken off or put on.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—Once we get to see the advertisements we can examine it. As has already been indicated, this is a program that is the responsibility of the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism that we administer on their behalf. I am happy for us to examine the issues that have been raised by the two advertisements and respond out of session or on notice.</p> <p>Senator FIELDING—If you take those on notice, I will table the other advertisement as well.</p>				
<i>Ministerial travel</i>								
<u>SI-37</u>	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—I will ask this question on notice. Mr Paterson, when I was asking about the minister's travel, you indicated that I had been provided with an extra answer in relation to question No. 729. Yes, I did in relation to all the staff, but in relation to the minister it was basically a repeat of the initial answer, which only relates to that which the Department of Finance and Deregulation tables and not the costs incurred. As I understand it, the department—</p> <p>Mr Paterson—In response to the question earlier this afternoon, I indicated that our response was a response for all costs borne by the department.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Do they find their way into the Department of Finance and Deregulation tables?</p>	E65-E66	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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				<p>Mr Paterson—No.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—No?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—We have answered the question, which includes all of the costs borne by the department in respect of that travel; and the other costs that will be borne in respect of that travel by the Department of Finance and Deregulation they will table.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Did the minister only incur costs that will be disclosed in the Department of Finance and Deregulation tabling?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I am not aware of any other costs associated with that travel that have not been disclosed in the answer to the question provided to you or in that which will be tabled by the Department of Finance and Deregulation.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Without delaying this too much, BI-19 disclosed no costs at all. As a result, we put a further parliamentary question on notice and, once again, I was not given any costs in relation to the minister; it was just a repeat.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I agree. As I understand the response to the question that we have provided to you, all of the costs associated with the minister's travel are costs that will be borne by the Department of Finance and Deregulation and tabled by them in their return. I am not aware of any other costs in relation to that travel that have not been disclosed in this answer to the question or will be disclosed by the Department of Finance and Deregulation in their normal response. If there is a gap in the question that I am missing of a category of expenses that you believe we have not responded to that will not be in the response from the Department of Finance and Deregulation, I am happy to look at it, but I am not aware of any category of expenses that has not been covered in our response.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—If you can check up on that, if whoever has that wonderful task in your department can have a look at what PM&C did to see whether that might alert them to any other</p>				

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				expenses, that would be great, but I do not want to delay the committee any further.				
Automotive Review								
SI-38	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—...Can I move to the Bracks review? Given the time constraints, I will read some of these questions into the <i>Hansard</i>. If you do not have the answer immediately, that is fine; take them on notice. What was the total cost of the review and how many days in total did Mr Bracks work on the review? If it takes too long to look it up—</p> <p>Senator Carr—No, it will not take too long to look it up. You asked a question. We will try to answer it.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—But we have time constraints because you had something more important than your duty to the Senate, which I am willing to accept. Therefore, I do not want time taken up with officials looking up things. I am not suggesting they are deliberately delaying it. Of course it takes time to find these things. I do not need an answer immediately, but if it is available then that is great.</p> <p>Mr Payne—As at 9 October the total expenditure for the automotive review was \$677,373.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Are you anticipating any further costs?</p> <p>Mr Payne—There could be some further costs come in, basically receipt of invoices that could still be coming. There could be some small amounts in addition.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—You describe them as small amounts. We will ask next time and hopefully the accounts can be closed off. How many days did Mr Bracks work on the review? How much was Mr Bracks paid in total?</p> <p>Mr Payne—I do not actually have the number of days.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Take that on notice along with how much Mr Bracks was paid and how much each other reviewer was paid.</p>	E68	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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<i>Toyota</i>								
<u>SI-39</u>	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—So Toyota was just given a special deal. How did that happen? Did Toyota approach the government and say, ‘Would you mind opening it earlier for us,’ or did we approach Toyota and say, ‘Look, the Prime Minister is in your country; would you agree to something if we threw \$35 million at you because it would make a good photo opportunity’? How did it happen that Toyota got \$35 million from a fund that was not to open until 20 November?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—The government made an announcement in relation to the awarding of that money to be brought forward from the green car fund to secure that investment in Australia.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Was Toyota approaching the government, or was the government approaching Toyota?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—There were conversations between the government and Toyota that preceded that announcement.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—I assumed as much, but who initiated the discussion?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I will take that on notice.</p>	E72-E73	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>Car manufacturing</i>								
<u>SI-40</u>	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—In fairness, the minister might have to take this on notice. There seems to be a view that Australian car manufacturers will struggle to meet the government’s target of 20 per cent greater fuel efficiency by 2010. How do we propose to deal with that, or do we say that such reports are wrong?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I do not know the basis upon which that report has been made.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Please take that on notice and, in specific terms, I refer you to an article on page 2 of the <i>Australian</i> of 16 June 2008. Was the department involved in any way in the drafting of the amendments to the luxury car tax? I understand that you were not consulted, so I assume that you were not</p>	E73	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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				involved in any drafting either.				
Manufacturing								
<u>SI-41</u>	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Mr Paterson—I am aware of a number of job losses from the manufacturing sector over a period of 12 months to October 2008, but it does not accord with the number that you have just mentioned.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—What number do you have?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—The number that I have is 7,600 jobs between June 2007 and October 2008. You said 9,000—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Your figure is up to June 2008?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—No. Our number is from June 2007 to October 2008 and your number was larger and over a much shorter period, so I cannot reconcile those two.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—In this AAP report of Friday 3 October at 9.28 am, I am told that recent statistics from the Australian Bureau of Statistics show that 9,200 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Australia since May.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—We will check that.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you very much.</p>	E73	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
Geelong Investment and Innovation Fund								
<u>SI-42</u>	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ...Who can tell me—you, Mr Jones?—about the Geelong Investment and Innovation Fund? How much money has been allocated to that?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—How much has been spent on administration thus far?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I do not think we have that number. The total administrative costs that were allocated to that project for its five-year life were \$2.64 million.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—We can take on notice how much has been spent to date.</p>	E75 & E76	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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				<p>Mr Paterson—Yes</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—What is the percentage cost of administration for this particular fund and how does it relate to other funds?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—We will take that question on notice.</p>				
<i>LPG Conversion Scheme</i>								
<u>SI-43</u>	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—Thanks a lot. I turn to the LPG conversion scheme? It seems as though they are doing pretty well and are selling like hotcakes. In the three months June to September, a total of 30,098 applicants were paid the \$2,000 grant. Is that right?</p> <p>Mr Sexton—Demand in the program remains very strong, yes.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Minister, could you take on notice to ask the minister whether or not the government is willing to guarantee its ongoing funding, at least until the next budget?</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you.</p>	E76	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
<i>TCF Review</i>								
<u>SI-44</u>	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you. I was going to ask a few questions on the TCF review, but I think we can delay them. I was going to ask the minister whether he agrees with Professor Green's implicit assertion that the Australian farmers who use mulesing or intensive techniques are unethical, but I note that the minister at the table has already been asked that from an agricultural perspective. If I might say, you gave a very sound answer, Senator Sherry.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—It was a very succinct answer.</p>	E77	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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				<p>Senator ABETZ—It is rare that I am able to make that comment about your answers, but I was interested to see whether Senator Carr had a different view of life. I will not invite you to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—Can I just ask why you were going to raise mulesing here with Senator Carr? I am glad it does not have a Latin name.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Because it came up in the textile review that was undertaken by Professor Green. There is some method to my madness, Senator Sherry.</p> <p>Senator Sherry—I see the linkage. I will take it on notice.</p>				
<i>Corporate communications</i>								
<u>SI-45</u>	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you very much. That is all I really need to know on that one. Can I quickly backtrack, Minister? You indicated that you did not say certain things on Radio National. I am a trusting sort of fellow and I am willing to take your word on that but, just to confirm my trust, I am sure that your media monitors would have had that transcribed. Could I invite you to provide the committee with a transcript of that Radio National interview?</p> <p>Senator Carr—I think you will find it is on the ABC website. I thought there was actually a transcript—</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Whilst that is happening, I have been advised that your wonderful words in relation to Radio National are, in fact, not able to be obtained from the ABC website or there are technological deficiencies within my office. I was wondering if your office could provide that transcript. That would be most helpful.</p> <p>Senator Carr—I will take that on notice. The truth is I do not get transcripts for most of the work I do. It may well be we can provide you with a copy of the interview, I just do not know.</p>	E79 & E82	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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Recruitment of Chief Scientist								
SI-46	Abetz	Office of the Chief Scientist	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—Fair enough. Can I then put on notice: what is the budget of the office, how many staff does it have, what band are those staff in and how many applications were there for the position of Chief Scientist? In addition, could it be confirmed that this is a Public Service position? I do not need those questions answered now.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—The answer to the last question is that it is not a Public Service position—that is, it is not an appointment under the Public Service Act but an appointment under a deed with the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—So it is a separate deed, is it?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—Yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you. That is very interesting.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—It continues the pattern of previous appointments in relation to the Chief Scientist.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—I think, of itself, that might be a good position.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—The total budget for the office for 2008-09 is \$1.294 million, probably closer to \$1.295 million, excluding the costs associated with the direct employment of the Chief Scientist. At present there are nine allocated staff: one EL2, four EL1s, three APS6s and one APS3.</p> <p><i>[Number of applications for the position of Chief Scientist remains unanswered.]</i></p>	E80	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	
Australian Stem Cell Centre								
SI-47	Abetz/ Boswell	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—Can we be advised as to how much was paid for this review to be undertaken? Has that been announced anywhere as yet?</p> <p>Mr Pennifold—The cost of that review is under a contract and GST inclusive is \$324,410.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—In anybody's language that is not a small sum of money but clearly the ASCC—</p>	E88 & E89	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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				<p>Senator Carr—It is substantive.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—It does consume a substantial amount of Australian taxpayers' money. Given the problems that the minister described as 'major problems', it is appropriate that this sort of report be obtained. Undoubtedly, for that sum of money—</p> <p>Senator Carr—You know the public conversation around this issue. I think it would be a fair description to say there are major problems. The board has resigned and the CEO has resigned.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Sorry?</p> <p>Senator Carr—Both the board and the CEO have resigned. These are not usual circumstances.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—When did the board resign?</p> <p>Senator Carr—That is all in the public record. I do not know the precise dates.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—I am not being critical of this. It is an unfortunate situation.</p> <p>Senator BOSWELL—I just want to come in on this.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Take on notice please when the board resigned and when the CEO resigned.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Chesworth—Could I respond to a question that Senator Abetz asked to be put on notice? The former ASCC board resigned on 5 September. <i>[Date CEO resigned remains unanswered.]</i></p>				
Reviews								
SI-48	Abetz	DIISR	23/10/2008	<p>Senator ABETZ—I do not mean to be critical of Mr Paterson, but is this another review that is in the department? I understand the minister was getting a review on the Australian Stem Cell Centre by the end of last month.</p> <p>Mr Chesworth—This is a scheduled review. It had been</p>	E87 (see also E57-E58 and E59)	12/12/2008	12/12/2008	

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				<p>scheduled to take place in 2008. There was also a review that took place in 2006 and it is my understanding that there is another schedule review due in 2010 as well.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—But there is an ongoing review, even if it is a rolling review. So that I understand, would a fair description of it be that it is a rolling review?</p> <p>Mr Chesworth—The review was a discrete exercise.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Were there any other discrete reviews, Secretary, that I should be made aware of that are currently underway in the department?</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I did indicate that I would take that on notice. I have clarified the answer in relation to one additional issue earlier today. If there is anything else that I have not brought to your attention—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Like this one. I appreciate you cannot have them all.</p> <p>Mr Paterson—I did take it on notice earlier.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes. I am just indicating that here is another one.</p>				