

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2008-09

23 October 2008

Question: **SR-23**
Topic: **Australian basins**
Proof Hansard Page: **E135**

Senator Johnston asked:

Senator JOHNSTON—All right. But for these 100 sites in the various basins?

Dr Foster—Sixty-five, yes, go on.

Senator JOHNSTON—Excuse me, the 65 better sites you have identified. What proportion of those are actual drill data where you have got the actual below 800 metres sample in your drill tray?

Dr Foster—I would say all of those sites had drill material at least some reference point.

Senator JOHNSTON—So the correlation is very, very high, almost 100 per cent, between actual drill data and your 65 sites?

Dr Foster—Let me stress again that these are regional studies. These are not site specific to say, 'The point is here.' So the issue is, does the basin at a particular area have the capacity, does it have those attributes that we talked about—seal, structural integrity and so on. The real issue about when you are getting down to CCS in terms of injecting it is actually quite detailed and would require more detailed study.

Senator JOHNSTON—All right. So we have 65 more prospective sites?

Dr Foster—Yes.

Senator JOHNSTON—Can you tell me, and I hate to ask you this, what is the distribution, state by state? Obviously some states are going to have a little bit more carbon than others that they want to inject.

Dr Foster—Senator, I think perhaps it is best to take that on notice where we could provide you with a list of those forms.

Senator JOHNSTON—All right.

Answer:

A total of 65 sites were assessed within the GEODISC project of the Australian Petroleum Cooperative Research Centre program.

State/Territory	No of study areas
Ashmore-Cartier	4
New South Wales	2
Northern Territory	3
Queensland	14
South Australia	4
Tasmania	4
Victoria	9
Western Australia	25
Total	65

The sites are shown as blue dots on the map below as ESSCIs (Environmentally Sustainable Site for Carbon dioxide Injection).

