

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11  
20 October 2010

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

**TOPIC:** Home insulation program

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Colbeck

**QUESTION no.:** SI-57

1. How many staff are involved in the work CSIRO is undertaking for the Government in relation to its Home Insulation Program?
2. From which other areas have they been seconded?
3. When will the results be made available and to whom?
4. What exactly is CSIRO being asked to do in relation to home insulation, how much is it being paid, and by when must it report?
5. What are the terms of the consultancy, and what is the exact nature of the work?
6. Did CSIRO tender for this contract? If not, how did it win this contract? Was it simply approached? If so, why?

**ANSWER**

1. CSIRO's Division of Mathematics, Informatics and Statistics Division are providing services to the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE). Three CSIRO staff are involved in this project.
2. The staff have not been seconded from other areas. This work is part of the normal process of undertaking externally funded projects within the organisation.
3. It is anticipated the project will be completed by the end of June 2011. The results of this work will be provided to DCCEE.
4. CSIRO was asked to provide advice on the appropriate collection of data in order to produce a risk assessment tool that would identify households with both higher and lower safety risk in relation to insulation installed under the Home Insulation Scheme. The contract was for \$176,850 (inclusive of GST), but CSIRO is undertaking some additional work and this will increase the contract price to \$250,436 (inclusive of GST).

5. The terms of the consultancy are detailed in a consultancy agreement between DCCEE and CSIRO. CSIRO understands that the terms of the consultancy agreement are based on DCCEE's standard contract for the provision of consultancy services but DCCEE would be better placed to comment on this issue. From CSIRO's perspective the terms of the consultancy agreement were reviewed against CSIRO's policies in this area and were deemed to be suitable for use. Refer to the answer for SI-11 question 2 regarding the nature of the work.

6. Refer to the answer provided for SI-11 question 4.