

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

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Green Building Fund

REFERENCE: Written Question–Senator Colbeck

QUESTION No: SI-81

When will the first sets of NABERS reports on projects under the Green Building Fund be available? Will these reports be made available publicly and/or will all non-Government Members and Senators will be able to see these reports? If not, why not?

Has any of the grant recipients under the Green Building Fund subsequently asked for more funding after their projects have been approved?

Has any of the grant recipients notified the Department and/or the Minister's office of any kinds of problems in meeting the deadlines, or sought any extensions to those deadlines? If yes, how many?

Does the Department make any official visits to the buildings concerned subsequent to the projects being approved – and what's the nature of those visits?

Will there be any formal audits undertaken of the Green Building Fund program?

ANSWER

Following project completion all grantees are required to monitor energy usage for 12 months and provide an independent NABERS report identifying actual greenhouse gas (GHG) savings achieved. NABERS reports are just beginning to be provided for projects from early rounds of the program. These reports will form part of an evaluation of the program.

No.

As at 30 September 2010, 53 requests to extend the project end date had been received from grant recipients.

There is a program of site visits to Green Building Fund projects. The visits are part of the program's compliance activities and are undertaken on a risk management basis.

The Department of innovation, Industry, Science and Research completed an internal audit of the administration of the Green Building Fund in June 2010. An evaluation of the Green Building Fund is scheduled to commence in the 2012-13 financial year.