

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: Pulp and Paper Industry Strategy Group

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Colbeck.

QUESTION No.: SI-90

When did the Minister receive the final report of the Pulp and Paper Industry Strategy Group?

When did DIISR provide advice on the recommendations contained within that report?

What timelines (draft or otherwise) have been placed on the implementation of any of the recommendations?

What costs (draft or otherwise) have been placed on the implementation of any of the recommendations?

When does the Minister intend on releasing the Government's response to the report's final recommendations?

What was the final cost of the strategy group?

What was the cost of consultants to the strategy group?

ANSWER

31 March 2010.

29 March 2010.

Recommendation 2 has been implemented with the announcement on 20 April 2010 of the establishment of a Pulp and Paper Industry Innovation Council. No timelines have been placed on the implementation of the remaining recommendations.

For Recommendation 2, for 2010-11 a sum of up to \$349,176 (GST exclusive) has been budgeted for the operation of the Pulp and Paper Industry Innovation Council.

No decision has been made on the release of the Government's response to the recommendations as these are still receiving consideration by relevant agencies.

The final cost of the Strategy Group was \$865,435 (GST exclusive) and exclusive of industry contributions.

The total cost of consultancies was \$250,448 (GST exclusive). Industry members contributed \$34,917, bringing the net cost of consultancies to the Government to a total of \$215,531 (GST exclusive).