SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMICS QUESTION

(Supplementary Budget Estimates 20 October – 21 October)

Question: SBT 34

Topic: Wine Equalisation Tax - Rebates

Senator Colbeck asked:

- What value of wine imported from New Zealand has received the rebate on the wine equalisation tax over each of the past 5 years?
- How many NZ wine producers have received this rebate over each of the past 5 years?
- What has been the highest rebate for each of the past 5 years?

Answer:

Data on the exact value of wine imported from New Zealand that has received the rebate is not available. The estimated value of wine imported from New Zealand that has received the rebate over the last four financial years is as follows:

| | \$(million) |
|----------|-------------|
| 2005-06: | nil |
| 2006-07: | \$19.8 |
| 2007-08: | \$40.4 |
| 2008-09: | \$55.6 |
| 2009-10: | \$66.9 |

The number of New Zealand wine producers (participants) that have received the rebate over the last four financial years is as follows:

| 2005-06: | nil |
|----------|-----|
| 2006-07: | 69 |
| 2007-08: | 120 |
| 2008-09: | 138 |
| 2009-10: | 181 |

The maximum rebate claimable for the 2005–06 Australian financial year (1 July – 30 June) was \$290,000. For every financial year after, the maximum rebate claimable is \$500,000. In each year the maximum amount has been claimed by a number of New Zealand participants.

Note:

The New Zealand producer rebate was effective from 1 July 2005, however no claims were processed until 2006-07. New Zealand participants are not eligible to lodge a claim until after the end of the financial year in which the relevant taxable dealing took place.