

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012
19 October 2011

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVE

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 19 October 2011, page 38).

QUESTION No.: SI-26

Senator COLBECK: Of the \$100 million allocated in each of the next three years in the PBS to the Clean Energy Initiative, how much has already been committed?

Ms Lansdown: Three projects are under negotiation at the moment: two solar energy projects and a carbon capture and storage project. You say 'committed'. We are in the process of contract negotiations; they will not be formally committed until we sign those contracts. The value of those three projects is \$172 million.

Senator COLBECK: Can you give us an indication of allocation to each of those?

Ms McLaughlin: Three projects have currently been announced. The research infrastructure aspect of the Solar Dawn project, a Solar Flagships project, is being led by the University of Queensland. That project is receiving \$60 million from the Education Investment Fund. The Moree Solar Farm project is receiving \$66.5 million. That is going to CSIRO, the lead research organisation on that project. With respect to the Carbon Capture and Storage flagship, \$48.4 million will be going to CSIRO from the Education Investment Fund as part of the Collie South West Hub CCS project.

Senator COLBECK: What is the timing of those particular elements?

Ms McLaughlin: Those three funding agreements are currently under negotiation. Each of them will run for a period of around four years. The funding starts to flow in the current financial year. Each of those has a different funding profile, but we can provide that to you.

Senator COLBECK: Perhaps you could give it to us on notice.

Ms McLaughlin: Sure.

ANSWER

Subject to final contract negotiations, the annual funding profiles for research infrastructure components of the Solar Flagships and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Flagships funded through the Education Investment Fund are as follows:

| Project | 2011-12 \$m | 2012-13 \$m | 2013-14 \$m | Total EIF \$m |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| University of Queensland Solar Dawn Flagship | 28.0 | 32.0 | 0 | 60.0 |
| CSIRO Moree Solar Farm Flagship | 13.38 | 39.07 | 14.05 | 66.5 |
| CSIRO National Geosequestration Laboratory (Collie CCS Flagship) | 16.966 | 24.189 | 7.245 | 48.4 |