

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2011-12
19 October 2011

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

TOPIC: GALVANIZERS ASSOCIATION

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 19 October 2011, page 56)

QUESTION No.: SI-34

Senator CAMERON:..... That is consistent with price increases that Treasury have analysed as well. Have Geelong Galvanizing approached your department to get some assistance with this problem that they claim they have? If not, could there be some proactive engagement with Geelong Galvanizing to have a look at this issue?

Senator CAMERON: Did the association raise a figure of a 10 per cent increase in power prices?

Mr Lawson: I would have to take that on notice. I do not know.

ANSWER

Geelong Galvanizing has not approached the Department regarding its estimate of a 10 per cent increase in electricity costs. Geelong Galvanizing is a member of the Galvanizers Association of Australia. The Department will be engaging with industry associations such as the Galvanizers Association, to promote the Clean Technology Investment Program.

The Clean Technology Investment Program will provide grants to manufacturers to improve their energy and carbon efficiency, thereby helping them to reduce their exposure to electricity price changes.

The Galvanizers Association of Australia attended a consultation session run by the Department on the design of the Clean Technology Investment Program in Melbourne on 5 October 2011. To the best of the Department's knowledge, the Galvanizers Association did not raise the issue of electricity price increases during this session, nor has it raised this matter with the Department previously or subsequently.