

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: AUSTRALIAN NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION

TOPIC: EMPLOYMENT

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Abetz

QUESTION No.: SI-51

Is it true that the last world-renowned radioisotope researcher employed by ANSTO was made redundant recently?

ANSWER

An individual involved in the development of new processes for dispensing particular isotopes was made redundant. Alternative processes and products developed overseas had proved superior to those under development at ANSTO, and after a review the ANSTO research projects were terminated. The individual's expertise was not suited to the radiochemistry focus of ANSTO LifeSciences work, as discussed in the response to SI-50.