

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: COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

TOPIC: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Colbeck

QUESTION No.: SI-69

Mr Whelan also stated on 19 October 2011 that the Department of Climate Change originally sought to include a number of CSIRO officers in the Government's carbon tax advertising campaign. How many officers were recruited to potentially participate in the campaign, and why did those staff ultimately not appear in the advertising?

ANSWER

In addition to Dr Wonhas, two CSIRO officers were filmed and interviewed for the Clean Energy Future campaign at the CSIRO Energy Centre facility in Newcastle on 17 June 2011. Two other CSIRO officers, an executive member and a scientist, were also interviewed for the Clean Energy Future web site.

The decision to include footage of Dr Wonhas in the television and website components of the Clean Energy Future campaign, and not to include footage of the other CSIRO officers in the campaign was made by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE). Any questions regarding these decisions should be directed to DCCEE.