

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

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION

**TOPIC:** SCIENCE IN SOCIETY

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Colbeck

**QUESTION No.:** SI-77

Is there a Science in Society group in CSIRO – and, if so, what is its role?

**ANSWER**

Yes. CSIRO has a program of integrated modelling and consultation work that examines the implications of pursuing particular technology paths for the Australian energy sector over the next 20 to 50 years. As part of this, CSIRO's Science into Society Group specialises in applied social research and works closely with key stakeholders in areas such as sustainable industry and community development, assessment of technology, social licence to operate and the investigation of related behavioural change.

An example of an activity involving the Science into Society Group is EnergyMark, a project which brings community groups together to discuss energy technologies and climate change and to learn more about the role they can play in moving towards a sustainable future.