

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Industry Portfolio  
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14  
21 November 2013

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION (CSIRO)

**TOPIC:** Contracts and on-going contracts

**REFERENCE:** Written Question - Senator Carr

**QUESTION No.:** SI-31

1. How many contracts does CSIRO have?
2. What are they for?
3. How many of these are for consulting services?
4. What are the nature of these consultancies, who are they with, how long are they for, and for how much?

**ANSWER**

1. Pursuant to the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, CAC Act bodies are required to report *via* AusTender all procurements of \$400,000 and above other than procurement of construction services; or \$9 million for procurement of construction services. CSIRO is a CAC Act body and complies fully with this requirement.

In accordance with CSIRO procedures, procurement activities over \$250,000 are managed centrally, and contracts above this internal threshold are also published on AusTender.

During the reporting period 1 July 2013 to 31 October 2013, CSIRO entered into 14 contracts over the reporting threshold of \$250,000.

CSIRO has a de-centralised procurement function for activities for \$250,000 and less. The recording of expenditure in our finance system does not enable identification of the number of 'contracts' as distinct from financial commitments and purchases generated through credit cards, purchase orders and invoices.

2. Contracts referred to in Q1 are for electricity, scientific equipment, facilities maintenance, telecommunications and software. Details of these contracts can be found on the AusTender site at: [https://www.tenders.gov.au/?agencyStatus=0&agencyStatus=0&AgencyUUID=D3275762-D634-4459-D33A26E1BEA05D14&dateStart=01-Jul-2013&dateEnd=31-Oct-2013&dateType=Publish+Date&valueStart=&valueEnd=&categorySearchCode=&confidentiality=&supplier\\_name=&ABN=&reportType=data&submitCriteria=Display+Results&event=public.reports.CN.Published.show](https://www.tenders.gov.au/?agencyStatus=0&agencyStatus=0&AgencyUUID=D3275762-D634-4459-D33A26E1BEA05D14&dateStart=01-Jul-2013&dateEnd=31-Oct-2013&dateType=Publish+Date&valueStart=&valueEnd=&categorySearchCode=&confidentiality=&supplier_name=&ABN=&reportType=data&submitCriteria=Display+Results&event=public.reports.CN.Published.show)
3. No contracts referred to in Q1 are for consulting services; however CSIRO entered into 6 consulting services contracts in the period 1 July 2013 to 31 October 2013. The 6 consultancy contracts did not individually reach \$250,000 and as such were not reported on AusTender.

4. Please refer to BI-124 for details on consultancies for the period 1 February 2013 to 31 May 2013. Details of consultancies entered into during the reporting period 1 June 2013 to 31 October 2013 are provided in the following table:

<b>Consultant</b>	<b>Nature and purpose of consultancy</b>	<b>Estimated total cost of consultancy \$ (GST inc)</b>	<b>Period</b>
Lateral Projects and Development Pty Ltd	Meta Museum Scoping Study	49,225	24/6/13 – 23/9/13
IQX Business Solutions Pty Ltd	CSIRO desktops and applications specialised data review	18,150	27/5/13 – 30/6/13
Strategis Partners	Flagship business and outcomes review	<250,000	5/8/13 – 31/12/13
Dr Simon Bain	Research methodology review	55,000	14/10/13 – 13/12/13
RPL Ross Petsas Luksza	Site Assessment	7,370	17/5/13 – 30/6/13
The Trustee for the Deloitte Access Economics Trust	Ex Impact review	85,635	31/10/13 – 31/01/14