Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Industry Portfolio Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14 21 November 2013

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

TOPIC: Redundancies

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 21 November 2013, pages 32 and 33)

QUESTION No.: SI-7

Senator BERNARDI: In regard to the budget envelope which was outlined in the last budget under the previous government, which forced you to make the 200 redundancies—or did not force you but prompted the decision—were those redundancies of scientists or of support or administrative staff?

Dr Clark: I do not have the full breakdown with me today. Jack, do you want to cover that?

Dr Steele: Yes.

Senator BERNARDI: Time is a bit short, but maybe you could provide that on notice.

Dr Steele: In general terms, it cuts across, but we try to keep as many of our scientists as we can in the way in which we engineer that.

Senator BERNARDI: I understand. I would be interested if you could provide that on notice.

Dr Steele: Yes, sure. For clarity, we will provide that detail on the redundancies that have occurred to date, because some are still ongoing. But we will have precise information on the redundancies in the current financial year to date.

Senator BERNARDI: Dr Clark suggested that they had been just about completed.

Dr Clark: No, some have been completed and we are still completing some this year.

Senator BERNARDI: I do not want you to tell me who is going to be made redundant in the future, but I think to date would be good.

Dr Steele: Yes. On the ones that we have done to date—the number is about 130 to 140 at this point in time—we will be able to provide that breakdown information.

ANSWER

In the current financial year as at 30 November 2013, there have been 154 completed redundancies. Of these, 36 were from support groups; 44 were research scientists or engineers; and 74 were from research support areas.