

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: CSIRO

Output Group: CSIRO

DEST Question No. E1075_06

Senator Stephens provided in writing.

Question:

Does Industrial Physics include any renewable energy-related projects?

Which ones?

Will any of these be cut? Please provide amounts.

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Science Investment Process

The Industrial Physics Division undertakes research to enhance Australia's industry through technology innovation. Research related to renewable energy takes place in the Enabling Physics for Flagships and the National Innovation System Theme.

The recent renewable energy-related research in the Division has focused on efficient machines and solar hydrogen production from water.

In response to the Science Investment Process Broad Direction Setting document issued in October 2005, the Industrial Physics Division has indicated in its Theme proposals its intention to end its research directed at the development of photo-electrochemical cells for hydrogen production via water splitting.

It is not yet possible to detail changes to funding associated with ending the water-splitting research.