

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

**Outcome:** CSIRO

**Output Group:** CSIRO

#### **DEST Question No. E951\_06**

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

In the CSIRO SIPS Investment Decisions for 2006/07 the Executive Team (ET) concludes that “we should reduce our effort in renewable energy restricting our activities to those in which we have competitive advantage and can have significant impact.”

What criteria were used to judge in which activities CSIRO had a “competitive advantage” and could “have significant impact”?

#### **Answer:**

*CSIRO has provided the following response.*

#### *Science Investment Process - criteria*

Among the several criteria used to assess CSIRO’s research priorities during the Science Investment Process, those listed below related to CSIRO’s competitive advantage and the potential for creating significant impact:

#### Relevance to Australia

- Significant potential benefit for Australia
- Delivery of science and technology is key to producing outcomes
- Builds important capability in CSIRO with broad applicability
- Results in valuable additional benefits (e.g. reputation enhancement, Australian global positioning)

#### Likely Impact

- Distinctive (and differentiated) science
- Researchers’ track record of delivery over the last 5 years, including delivery of scientific outcomes
- Science “hotspot”
- Appropriate leadership capacity
- Appropriate investment level