

**EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING**

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
2006-2007 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING**

**Outcome:** CSIRO  
**Output Group:** CSIRO

**DEST Question No. E957\_07**

Senator Allison asked on 14 February 2007, EWRE Hansard page 71.

**Question:**

ECOmmodore

**Senator ALLISON**—I was astounded that the purpose for the ECOmmodore went from being the production of a hybrid in Australia to an opportunity to showcase our component parts, which I think is now said to be the reason for it. ....

**Dr Sandland**—A very important part of that whole process was bringing together a very large number of different component parts and component technologies that went into that showcase vehicle. So my understanding—and I may be wrong on this—is that a lot of that investment was not made by CSIRO but by others who wished to participate in that study. However, I will check that for you. ....

**Answer:**

*CSIRO has provided the following response.*

*ECOmmodore*

The hybrid ECOmmodore was never intended to be the precursor of a production vehicle. It was an engineering 'learning platform' to give scientists and engineers the opportunity to explore new and innovative technologies. From a CSIRO perspective, the outcome was an experimental vehicle, which demonstrated how CSIRO and industry could work together to push the boundaries of a range of automotive technologies.