

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3

Output Group: 3.2 – Assistance for science collaboration and innovation

DEST Question No. E144_04

Senator Forshaw asked on 4 June 2003, EWRE Hansard page 302

Question:

I will put the question on notice. It is with respect to the deed of indemnity. There has been correspondence from the People Against a Nuclear Reactor organisation in the Sutherland shire. Mr Michael Priceman advises me that he wrote to the Minister for Science on 3 March regarding this particular issue and is yet to receive a reply.

Answer:

ANSTO Deed of Indemnity and correspondence with the People Against a Nuclear Reactor

Mr Priceman's letter of 3 March 2003 was addressed to Senator the Hon Nick Minchin, Minister for Finance rather than the Minister for Science. Mr Priceman wrote to Senator Minchin again on 4 May regarding the Deed of Indemnity and was advised that the "matter falls more directly within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Science". Mr Priceman's correspondence of 3 March and 4 May 2003 was referred to the Hon Peter McGauran MP, Minister for Science, by Senator Minchin's Office. Mr Priceman also wrote to Mr McGauran on 26 May 2003 enclosing copies of his letter to Senator Minchin.

The Minister for Science responded to Mr Priceman on 3 July 2003.