EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: CSIRO Output Group: CSIRO

DEST Question No. E261_07

Senator Webber provided in writing.

Question:

In particular, what attention has been made to the inadequate funding of the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) by this Government?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Funding for the Australian Animal Health Laboratory

In 2003, a \$24 million engineering upgrade commenced which will be completed in 2008. At the same time, an additional \$5 million has been provided to support a state of the art high throughput fully equipped disease emergency laboratory within the facility's secure area. In response to increased diagnostic workload as a consequence of current potential threats from avian influenza, CSIRO and DAFF have allocated an additional \$1 million for the 2006/07 financial year.