

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

AGENCY: Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation

DEST Question No. E403_04

Senator Carr asked on 6 November 2003:

Question:

What part has ANSTO played in the additional investigations undertaken by ARPANSA in seeking to determine the significance and the potential consequences of repeated non-conformances associated with welding and welding repairs to the reactor pool liner?

What evidence or information has ANSTO provided to ARPANSA in this matter? [Please provide copies of these documents.]

Answer:

ANSTO has provided the following response:

The question appears to misunderstand the regulatory process employed by ARPANSA. In this instance, as in all ARPANSA-related regulatory processes, ANSTO provided information to ARPANSA in support of a request to approve proposed rectification and repair work. ARPANSA then carried out an independent appraisal, including through the use of independent consultants, of ANSTO's proposal. Copies of the information provided to ARPANSA by ANSTO are attached. Other papers relevant to ARPANSA's evaluation of ANSTO's proposal can be found on ARPANSA's web site.