

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: - CSIRO

DEST Question No. E560_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003.

Question:

How much has CSIRO invested in the AM Process technology? Include Commonwealth loan funds, CSIRO's own funds, staff time and access to CSIRO facilities and equipment.

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Contingent liabilities – Investment in AM process technology

We have not been able to extract information prior to 1997 in the timeframe; however we have identified the main projects and extracted financial data for projects undertaken for AMC and its related companies since 1997.

Note: This information relates only to projects undertaken by CSIRO on AM process technology (that is, "a process for the dissolution of magnesite and the dehydration of magnesium chloride") through direct contracts with AMC. It excludes research done by CSIRO through CRC's or third parties as well as research done on other aspects of the overall magnesium production process.

Direct expenses	\$2.185m
Indirect expenses	\$2.093m
Total expenses	\$4.278m

Funding received from AMC	<u>\$3.468m</u>
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Net investment by CSIRO	\$0.810m
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If the \$50m Commonwealth loan funds provided through the 2000 Agreement are included, the total investment committed by CSIRO was approximately \$51m.