

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

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

#### DEST Question No. E570\_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003.

#### Question:

- a) How many CRCs has the CSIRO withdrawn from in the past two years?  
Which ones?
- b) Is participation in any others under review?

#### Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

#### *CRCs*

- a) CSIRO has not withdrawn from any CRCs in the past two years.

Two CRCs in which CSIRO was involved (CRC for Tissue Growth and Repair and CRC for International Food Manufacture and Packaging Science) ceased in this period.

CSIRO negotiated a reduced commitment to the CRC for Polymers last year due to differences in strategic focus. This reduction was approved by the CRC Board and agreed by CRC partners in an amicable negotiation.

- b) CSIRO is currently considering changes to its involvement in the following five CRCs:
  - o CSIRO Manufacturing and Infrastructure Technology is planning to move from a Full Research Participant to a Research Associate in the CRC for MicroTechnology. This has been discussed with and endorsed by the Chair of the CRC and scheduled for consideration by the other Research Participants at the CRC's next Board Meeting. CSIRO plans to fulfil its full cash contribution to the CRC for the term, but reduce its in-kind contribution in the final 2 years of the CRC.
  - o CSIRO is seeking to have a reduced effort in the Australian Telecommunications CRC formalised with the CRC and other core participants, due to differing alignment with CSIRO's current objectives. This change has been informally agreed by CRC partners.
  - o CSIRO will be reviewing its involvement in the CRC for Enterprise Distributed Systems Technology in light of the formation of CSIRO's ICT Centre. Any changes in involvement will not affect commitments to current projects.
  - o CSIRO is reviewing its involvement in both the CRC for Clean Power from Lignite and the CRC for Greenhouse Gas Technologies with a view to significant increases in in-kind contributions to both CRCs in the future.