

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: CSIRO
Output Group: - CSIRO

DEST Question No. E576_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 November 2003.

Question:

Does a review by an external consultant that leads to additional work committed to that consultant without competitive tendering fall within either CSIRO or DEST guidelines?

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Consultancies

Yes. Under the CSIRO Procurement Policy, additional work could be commissioned provided the delegate is satisfied that the cost of the additional work constitutes value for money.

Quotations are not required where there is recent valid evidence of the source of best value for money, and obtaining quotations would not be cost effective; and where there are industry or professional fees that can be used as a substitute for direct quotations.

In this case, the key obligation on the delegate approving the transaction would be to demonstrate continued value for money to CSIRO and adherence to the underpinning principles (see DEST Question No. E571_04).

For information on the DEST guidelines please contact the Department.