

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: ANSTO
Output Group: ANSTO

DEST Question No. E521_06

Senator Nettle asked on 2 November 2005, EWRE Hansard page 33.

Question:

In the context of a discussion regarding ANSTO community discussions:

Can you confirm that, at the last meeting, the reason that the video was stopped after the ANSTO presentation was because people in the community were concerned?

Answer:

ANSTO community discussions

ANSTO has provided the following response:

As indicated by Mr McIntosh at the hearing, ANSTO does not keep written records or transcripts of the proceedings of the community discussions. The recollections of other people at the meetings and of the independent facilitator of the discussions tally with that of Mr McIntosh: that at the March 2005 discussion, there was a request to film the whole proceeding. Some community members were uncomfortable with that proposal, and as a compromise the facilitator proposed that filming be allowed of the initial ANSTO presentation only. That proposal was accepted.

Prior to the most recent community discussion on 26 October, ANSTO communications staff discussed this issue again with the independent facilitator. It was agreed that if media were present at the upcoming discussion, community members would be told that, as it was a public meeting, they might be recorded, filmed or quoted. If any person did not want to be captured in any form by the media, it would be up to that person to inform the media outlet of this. In the event, no media attended the 26 October discussion and the issue was therefore not discussed in that forum.