

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 3

**Output Group:** 3.2 – Assistance for collaboration and innovation

#### **DEST Question No. E563\_07**

Senator Crossin asked on 1 November 2006, EWRE Hansard page 134.

#### **Question:**

Is there any particular written memorandum of agreement about this? If it is in the form of written communication, can you provide that to this committee.

#### **Answer:**

*Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Facility – joint regulatory processes*

The Department of the Environment and Heritage has provided the following response:

The Department of the Environment and Heritage (DEH) and the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) have agreed to a joint process for the purposes of both environmental impact assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and the possible granting of licences under the *Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998*. There have been discussions between DEH and ARPANSA on how best to streamline the assessment and approval processes once a site is selected although, to date, no agreement or memorandum of understanding has been completed to formalise assessment and approval procedures between the respective agencies.