

Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Additional estimates 2009-2010; February 2010

Question on notice from **Senator Birmingham** to Austrade

AUSTRADE

Question 1

Topic: Clean Energy Export Strategy

Written Question

Senator Birmingham asked:

Please provide a breakdown of all expenditures incurred to date and allocated into the future under the \$15 million promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election.

Answer

In the May 2009 budget, the Government provided \$14.9 million over three years for Austrade to implement a Clean Energy Trade and Investment Strategy, with \$4.98 million in 2009–10, \$4.98 million for 2010–11 and \$5.024 million for 2011–12.

Austrade is appointing 12 clean energy industry specialists in 2009–10, increasing to 16 clean energy industry specialists in total for the two following years. Of these 16 staff, 12 are being located in overseas markets.

Under the strategy Austrade is seeking to attract investment into Australia to expand our clean energy capability and is assisting Australian clean energy companies access international markets. As at the end of February 2010, \$2.4 million has been spent, including \$1.6 million for staffing costs, and the remainder for Austrade activities to promote, attract and facilitate trade and investment in clean energy.