

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Question: 15

Topic: RDAF Round 1 - Gippsland

Asked By: Senator MCKENZIE

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 123

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 2

Senator McKENZIE: I have four questions relating to a specific program or application. They relate to the funding sought under the Regional Development of Australia Fund to facilitate the growth of the Latrobe regional airport in Gippsland Victoria as an aerospace industry centre and to expand regional employment opportunities. The application was rejected due to a failure to provide certain documentation. The project was going to give an additional 150 direct jobs to our community, already stressed in the coal industry. Can the department advise of the details around the decision to reject the application?

Mr O'Brien: I can take that on notice.

Senator McKENZIE: Thank you.

Mr O'Brien: It was deemed ineligible?

Senator McKENZIE: Yes.

Ms Beauchamp: Senator, you actually mentioned the failure to provide documentation. That in itself would be a reason why it was ineligible to be considered.

Answer:

The applicant did not meet the mandatory documentation requirements. Eligibility criteria were set out in Section 4.7 of the RDAF Guidelines for Round One.

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Mandatory documentation to be provided was specified in Section 4.7 of the Guidelines and in the application form. To be eligible for funding, applicants must have met the eligibility criteria and provided all mandatory documentation.