ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Monday, 27 June 2011

Office of Energy

Supplementary Information Questions 1-12: Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich asked -

(1) What targeted savings in agency programs will be made in the out years?

Answer: There are no plans to determine targeted savings in agency programs in the out years.

(2) What specific programs will be cut in 2011-2012?

Answer: No specific programs will be cut in 2011-2012.

(3) What targeted savings will be achieved by the agency through the new round of voluntary separations?

Answer: No targeted savings will be achieved by the agency through the new round of voluntary separations, as no voluntary separations are being taken by Office of Energy staff.

(4) How many cuts to agency programs will that mean since September 2008?

Answer: In October 2009, the government cut funding to the following three programs as part of its Global Savings Measures:

- Sustainable Energy Development Office Grants Program
- Energy Smart Government Program
- Energy Smart Enterprise Initiative

The Sustainable Energy Development Office Grants Program and Energy Smart Government Program have closed to new applications. Funding for the Energy Smart Enterprise Initiative was reduced from \$6 million to \$2.865 million. No other cuts to Office of Energy programs have been made in that period.

- (5) How many additional FTE will be cut through -
- 5.1 Voluntary severance
- 5.2 Involuntary severance

Answer: There will be no additional FTE cut through either (1) voluntary severance or (2) involuntary severance.

(6) What will this bring the total cuts to in each of the above categories since September 2008?

Answer: The total cuts in each of the above categories since September 2008 is therefore one voluntary severance in June 2010 (Level 8 position).

(7) Has there been a strategic review of the agency's activities to ensure that the activities and service delivery is aligned with the Government's priorities?

Answer: in late 2010/11, the Office of Energy commenced a process to develop a new Strategic Plan, given the period for the previous plan ended in 2010. The strategic planning process is expected to be completed by September 2011. One of the primary objectives of the new Strategic Plan is to help ensure that the Office of Energy's activities and service delivery are aligned with the Government's priorities.

7.1 If yes to (7) when was it conducted and by who?

Answer: Not applicable as strategic planning has only recently commenced.

(8) Can the review be provided to the Committee and if not why not?

Answer: The new Office of Energy Strategic Plan will be published on the Office of Energy's website when completed.

(9) Has there been a value for money review of the agency to determine the efficiency of agencies' service delivery and the effectiveness of the outcomes achieved?

Answer: No value for money review has been undertaken in 2010/11.

9.1 If yes to (9) when was it conducted and by who?

Answer: Not applicable.

(10) Can the review be provided to the Committee and if not why not?

Answer: Not applicable.

(11) Has the agency developed cost and demand models to strengthen the budget process to develop a more in-depth understanding of the cost and demand drivers in key service delivery areas?

Answer: No. The Office of Energy has not developed any cost and demand models for its key service delivery areas.

11.1 If yes to (11) when was it conducted and by who?

Answer: Not applicable.

(12) Can the review be provided to the Committee and if not why not?

Answer: Not applicable.