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QUANTUM COMPUTING - BRIEFS, CORRESPONDENCE, DISCUSSION PAPERS - 2015 - (CPII)

[illegible]

**Schedule Number**  
**4496**

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s 22

**From:** Angus, Chris  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 July 2015 5:51 PM  
**To:** s 22  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Quantum Working Group-investment policy objectives [~~DLM=For Official Use Only~~]

~~For Official Use Only~~

Thanks s 22 – can we discuss tomorrow?

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**From:** s 22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 July 2015 3:33 PM  
**To:** Angus, Chris  
**Cc:** s 22  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Quantum Working Group-investment policy objectives [~~DLM=For Official Use Only~~]

~~For Official Use Only~~

Chris,

We had a chat with Cyber and sent the attached response through to s 22 last week. Apologies, I had misread your email back in June as meaning Cyber would action.

s 22

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**From:** Angus, Chris  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 21 July 2015 3:22 PM  
**To:** s 22  
**Cc:** s 22  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Quantum Working Group-investment policy objectives [~~DLM=For Official Use Only~~]

s 22 – I recall we spoke about this before you went on leave.

Did we get anywhere with it?





PRIME MINISTER

Reference: C15/56761

15 JUL 2015

Senator Bridget McKenzie  
Senator for Victoria  
PO Box 2047  
Delivery Centre  
BENDIGO VIC 3554

Dear Senator

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Tony Abbott', written over the typed name 'Dear Senator'.

Thank you for your letter received on the 15 June 2015 regarding the Centre for Quantum Computing and Communication Technology.

Since July 2011, the Government has provided the Centre for Quantum Computing and Communication Technology with almost \$4 million per year through the Australian Research Council. This funding agreement will continue through to 2017. The Government will assess the Centre's latest proposal.

Investment in the technologies and industries of the future is important. The Government funds research through competitive merit based processes to ensure we get value for money.

Science is essential to boosting our productivity and economic opportunities in the decades ahead. That is why the Government has brought science into the centre of industry policy and we are implementing a series of measures to create stronger connections between Australian businesses and research institutions.

Australia has a history of scientific excellence and a wealth of talent. The Government will continue to support science and technology research to continue to promote this expertise.

Yours sincerely  
s 22

TONY ABBOTT

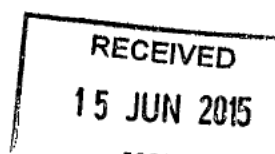


PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA • THE SENATE

SENATOR BRIDGET McKENZIE

*Senator for Victoria*

The Hon Tony Abbot MP  
Prime Minister  
Australian Parliament House  
MG 8  
Canberra ACT 2600



Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing in relation to meetings that I, along with several other Ministers, have had with Michelle Simmons from the Centre for Quantum Computation and Communication Technology regarding the potential for a \$25 million investment over five years to develop quantum computation technologies in Australia.

If Australia is to keep pace with the rest of the world we must invest to support our local research efforts. For example, the Dutch government, along with independent research institute TNO and others, recently invested Euro 135 million to enable Delft-based QuTech to develop a superfast quantum computer. QuTech was declared, by the Dutch government, to be one of four 'national icons' or innovations which will support future prosperity and help solve global problems. This investment has enabled QuTech to double its research team for the duration of the investment, with the Dutch Minister for Education stating that 'important scientists will stay in Netherlands and talents will be attracted to come here' as a direct result of this investment.

As a government we must invest more to the research and development of quantum technologies and quantum computation in Australia. As the QuTech example shows, supporting local research efforts will ensure Australia is at the forefront in developing this exciting new technology and associated industries, which will ultimately lead to the creation of new jobs, while also reversing the brain drain by encouraging local researchers to remain in Australia and attracting the world's best and brightest to our shores.

I hope we can work together to further develop this exciting new industry here in Australia.

Yours sincerely,

s 22

Bridget McKenzie  
Nationals Senator for Victoria

s 22

**From:** s 22  
**Sent:** Friday, 26 June 2015 4:25 PM  
**To:** s 22  
**Cc:** s 22; Clarke, Louise  
**Subject:** RE: For consultation: VIP corro on investment in the Centre for Quantum Computing and Communication Technology ~~[SEC=PROTECTED]~~  
**Attachments:** C15-56761.docx; C15-56761 IC 1.pdf; 1. Quantum Computing Report to Secs (11 June 2015)-DRAFT-v2.docx

~~PROTECTED~~

Hi s 22

Thanks for consulting us on this VIP corro. No changes from an education/ARC perspective.

Kind regards,

s 22

Education | Health and Education Branch  
 Social Policy Division | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
 p. s 22  
 e. s 22  
 PO Box 6500 CANBERRA ACT 2600

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**From:** s 22  
**Sent:** Friday, 26 June 2015 3:54 PM  
**To:** s 22  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: For consultation: VIP corro on investment in the Centre for Quantum Computing and Communication Technology ~~[SEC=PROTECTED]~~

~~PROTECTED~~

Hi s 22

As discussed, the funding information comes from page 13 of this report.

Kind Regards,

s 22

s 22

| Adviser  
 Intelligence Policy Section | Intelligence Branch  
 Cyber Policy and Intelligence Division | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
 P: s 22  
 E: s 22  
[www.dpmc.gov.au](http://www.dpmc.gov.au)  
 1 National Circuit, Barton, ACT, 2600

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**From:** s 22  
**Sent:** Friday, 26 June 2015 3:36 PM  
**To:** s 22

~~PROTECTED~~

Cc: s 22

**Subject:** For consultation: VIP corro on investment in the Centre for Quantum Computing and Communication Technology ~~[SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]~~

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Hi s 22

We have drafted a response to some VIP corro on investment in the Centre for Quantum Computing and Communication Technology. The Centre receives funding through the Australian Research Council, which I understand you have coverage of.

Would be able to take a look at our proposed response and check that we have depicted things correctly? The corro is due on Monday, so any comments would be greatly appreciated on Monday morning. Apologies for the tight deadline.

Kind Regards,  
s 22

s 22 | Adviser  
Intelligence Policy Section | Intelligence Branch  
Cyber Policy and Intelligence Division | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
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E: s 22  
[www.dpmc.gov.au](http://www.dpmc.gov.au)  
1 National Circuit, Barton, ACT, 2600