OPTUS

<center>**Responses to Questions on Notice**</center>

<center>**Submitted to the House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts**</center>

<center>**Inquiry into the deployment, adoption and application of 5G in Australia**</center>

Question:

Hansard of the Committee's hearing held in Sydney, 20 February 2020

Page 30:

Mr HUSIC: Just so we're clear, are questions being asked of Ericsson and Nokia to ensure that their tech has not been modified as a condition of manufacturing in China?

Mr Sheridan: I'd have to take that question on notice. My understanding is that those questions are absolutely being asked, but let me take it on notice.

Optus' Response:

Throughout its tendering, procurement and contracting process Optus is very clear with equipment vendors, irrespective of whether they manufacture in China or elsewhere, about its expectations and requirement that technology be made available which is fit for purpose and free from malicious code.

When onboarding technology, Optus also runs extensive testing in laboratory environments to ensure the new equipment performs as per design and is compatible with existing network elements and architecture.

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Question:

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Pages 31 & 32

Mr HUSIC: This is going to be a tricky question, so I flag it in advance. Who is owning all the data generated by these devices, particularly that they will be talking to each other on a much more regular basis? Is it the device manufacturer, the telco, the consumer? The data that is generated, is it held by the telco or on the device itself?

Mr Sheridan: I would have to take that a little bit on notice but certainly the data that is running over our network will be held securely by us and that is done under very strict privacy conditions and arrangements. Consumers may go out and buy devices themselves and there are over-the-top services. We don't necessarily have full control over those.

[…]

Mr Sheridan: There are certain arrangements that we have with some of our intercompanies that may use very anonymised data for understanding, for example, traffic patterns and usage patterns. But it's all under very strict arrangements and it's highly anonymised.

Mr HUSIC: It doesn't go through to servers, is what I understood, in terms of the data traffic or movement. It's all contained within there. With Google Home or Amazon's Home Products or with those types of devices that might be connected through a 5G network as opposed to an NBN offering, what happens with that data? Is it owned by you or is it owned by the vendor that provides that equipment?

Mr Sheridan: I don't know the answer to that question. I'd have to take that one on notice.

Optus' Response:

Optus' 5G network (as well as 3G and 4G networks), supports general web browsing and the use of apps.

Apart from our own applications, such as Optus Sport, Optus does not own, or have access to the data, associated with the interactions of our customers and other content providers such as Google or Amazon.

Optus does monitor web traffic across our network to enable Optus to dimension and optimise our network. This does not involve having access to the content of these interactions.