

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2015

Communications Portfolio

Australia Post

Question No: 12

Program Australia Post

Hansard Ref: Page 20, 24/2/2015

Topic: Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement

Senator Whish-Wilson, Peter asked:

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Before I get to a question for the minister, can I just ask you about the trade negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement that our country is entering into at the moment. One of the 29 chapters relates to the operations of state owned enterprises. This agreement is with 12 countries, mostly in the Pacific region. Have you been asked to provide any input to defence, foreign affairs and trade negotiations or to the government about Australia Post? Have they sought feedback from you at all around issues with government owned postal services?

Mr Fahour: Me, personally, no. I am sure I need to look into whether Australia Post—this is what you are getting at—has been asked. I can take that on notice.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Yes, if you could.

Mr Fahour: I can check on that and I will see if Australia Post has been notified or not.

Answer:

The Department of Communications and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade have consulted Australia Post on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) as it relates to the operations of Australia Post.