

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

nbn

Question No: 101

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Topic: Novo modo contract

Senator Conroy, Stephen asked:

Senator Conroy asked: So you do not need to set up a specific IT network just for Optus, but you do have to set up a specific IT network for the HFC?

Mr Morrow: That is correct.

Senator CONROY: Have you quantified those costs yet?

Mr Morrow: We had some initial estimates, I believe, that we used within the planning numbers—yes.

Senator CONROY: What is the novo modo contract?

Mr Morrow: I do not know.

Senator CONROY: Who would be the person who could answer that question? Which of your officers could answer a question about the IT set-up for the—

Mr Morrow: If you want to know the definition of novo modo we would have to take that on notice. Do you have a context to put it in?

Senator CONROY: 'There is also a significant effort to set up the novo modo contract, and uncertainty.'

Mr Morrow: Again, there are project names that are being used within the company. It could very well be a project name for something. I do not get into the KGB, CIA codename structures when we bring the executives in for the committees where we are making these decisions.

Senator CONROY: I thought you assured us you would be able to answer. The reason there are only two of you here is that you could answer all my questions. You can take that on notice. I certainly accept you can take that on notice.

Answer:

Novo Modo is a project between Optus and nbn that explores increasing the speed of deployment of the nbn Hybrid Fibre Coaxial (HFC) network in Optus-only areas.