

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

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Question No: 138

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Hansard Ref: Written, 22/2/2016

Topic: HFC product release

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

NBN Co's product road-map—dated 1 January 2016—indicates that your HFC product release is scheduled for Q2 2016.

Integrated Product Roadmap as at January 2016



- (a) Can NBN Co be any more specific? April/May/June?
- (b) NBN's HFC product release [PR044] first appeared in NBN Co's January 2015 roadmap, where it was scheduled for Q1 2016. Why has the HFC product set been delayed?

Integrated Product Roadmap as at January 2015



- (c) Does NBN Co anticipate more delays with its HFC product release?
- (d) Does NBN intend to launch its HFC product using DOCSIS 3.1, or will you initially roll out DOCSIS 3.0 customer equipment?

Answer:

- (a) June 2016.
- (b) & (c) The nbn product roadmap operates using a model of providing indicative launch dates to the industry as early as possible. The January 2015 roadmap provided an indicative view for launch estimated to be 12-15 months away. As you would expect and quite common for a major project of this kind, final launch dates will vary. As nbn moves closer to each product launch it is common for the roadmap to be updated with a more accurate launch date.

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- (d) No. nbn will initially deploy using DOCSIS 3.0 modems. It is anticipated that within several months nbn will move to deploy DOCSIS 3.1. modems. nbn has chosen to prioritise the launch of the HFC product and making superfast broadband available to end users sooner over availability of DOCSIS 3.1 modems.