

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

nbn

Question No: 148

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Hansard Ref: Written, 22/02/2016

Topic: Deployment of FTTdp solutions – Submissions

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

In late December NBN launched an Expression of Interest for “deployment of FTTdp solutions,” with submissions to close 22 January 2016.

- (a) Which vendors responded to the EOI?
- (b) NBN Co has previously indicated that the purpose of FTTdp in the NBN Co network is to serve customers too far from a node to get 25 megabits. Is this the purpose of this EOI?
- (c) When does NBN Co expect to finalise the EOI process?
- (d) Does the use of FTTdp require a new product set? If so, please provide details, include when dialogue with RSPs is expected to start through the WBA process.

Answer:

- (a) 17 Expression of Interest (EOI) responses were received in total from a range of vendors including some existing suppliers to nbn.
- (b) The EOI asked vendors to respond with Fibre-to-the-Distribution-Point (FTTdp) equipment suitable for servicing distant premises in FTTN serving areas, and for small serving areas that could be designated as FTTdp only.
- (c) nbn finalised the EOI process and informed all vendors of the outcome on 18 February 2016. nbn released an RFP to the 6 shortlisted vendors on 2 March 2016.
- (d) Yes, while nbn’s FTTdp offering will share many elements of nbn’s existing FTTP and FTTN products, it is likely that it will be a new product variant. Dialogue commenced with RSPs on the FTTdp product design in November 2015.