

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016
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Question No: 26

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Topic: Board member appointments – Cabinet date

Senator Dastyari, Sam asked:

Senator DASTYARI: What is the process undertaken to identify suitable candidates?

Senator Fifield: There is no one process. Governments of all persuasions have sourced potential candidates in different ways. Sometimes search firms are used; sometimes they are not. Ultimately the government of the day looks at potential candidates and makes a decision.

Senator DASTYARI: Was a search firm used in the appointment of Mr McIver?

Senator Fifield: No.

Senator DASTYARI: You could take this on notice. I am not sure if it is a question that you may or may not have traditionally answered, so I do not want to put you in an unfair position.

Obviously this went to cabinet before 22 December, before the public announcement. That would be a matter of fact. Do you know when it went to cabinet?

Senator Fifield: I will take that on notice.

Senator DASTYARI: And also take on notice whether or not that is something you would traditionally answer. I am comfortable if it is something that is not traditionally answered.

Answer:

It is not appropriate to comment on the Cabinet process.