

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings May 2014

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 280

Program No. NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: FSAMs

Senator Urquhart asked:

At the hearing Mr Adcock said:

“What I said was that the numbers that were put up on the website as ‘construction commenced’ were, as I have said before, the extremely aspirational targets and they were put up and labelled ‘construction commenced’—Senator, you are quite right: we have both litigated this position previously—when they were in the very early and preliminary stages of design with no commitment to build the network and no understanding of time frames.”

As this statement contains quite specific allegations that previous executives at NBN Co had intentionally provided incorrect information, can NBN Co identify any FSAM which was announced as “construction commenced” for which an NDD had not been provided to a construction partner?

Answer:

As of 29 October 2013 there were 268 Fibre Serving Area Modules (FSAMs) that were previously visible on the NBN Co website as “Construction Commenced” that did not have a Contract Instruction for Construction Activity (i.e. “commitment to build”), and associated documentation, issued to a construction partner.