Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014

Communications Portfolio

Department of Communications

Question No: 585

Program No. 1.3

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Digital Radio Discussion Paper

Senator Urquhart asked:

Ms O'Loughlin advised the Committee "My understanding at this stage is that the industry itself will be potentially coming back to government later in the year with some new proposals on digital radio. We would be waiting—we are not initiating a process until we have heard from them." Is the Department expecting a submission from Commercial Radio only or from Commercial Radio in conjunction with ABC and SBS? On what basis has the Department formed the view that it will be receiving the submission?

Answer:

The Department formed this view after informal conversations with Commercial Radio Australia representatives. It is a matter for the commercial radio industry whether, and in what form, further submissions will be provided to the Government.