

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**NBN Co Limited**

**Question No: 169**

**Program No. NBN Co**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Senate Estimates briefing**

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. How many officers have been responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?
2. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?
  - a) Please break down the hours by officer APS classification
3. Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates?
  - a) If so, when did this occur?
  - b) How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office?
4. Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information?
  - a) If so, when did this occur?
  - b) What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.
  - c) When were the changes made?
5. Provide each of the contents page of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2014.

**Answer:**

1. The NBN Co Government Relations team coordinates preparation for Parliamentary Committee hearings; however, there is no specific "briefing pack". Input on issues may be provided by a number of officers across the company depending on the specific questions that may be asked.
2. (a) To calculate the number of preparatory hours for Parliamentary Committee Hearings would be a very time consuming task as data is not tracked in this way. As such it would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.
3. (a-b) Briefing material was not provided to the Minister's Office before the Senate Estimates hearing. On occasions, a copy of the Opening Statement to be delivered at the hearing may be provided but this is generally for information only.
4. (a-c) Not applicable.
5. As stated above, there is no specific "briefing pack" and therefore no folder or contents page.