

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings October 2016
Communications Portfolio
NBN Co Limited

Question No: 162

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Hansard Ref: Pages 11-12

Topic: Unredacted version-Strategic Review

Senator Dastyari asked:

Senator DASTYARI: I believe it was taken on notice at that point in time, about whether or not an unredacted version would or would not be provided. A decision was made, I assume through the minister and the government—

Senator Fifield: In December 2013?

Senator DASTYARI: Yes.

Senator Fifield: I was not the minister in December 2013.

Senator DASTYARI: No. As I am saying, a decision was made not to provide an unredacted version. That was, I am assuming, for commercial reasons?

Dr Switkowski: Commercial reasons, yes.

Senator DASTYARI: Considering that time has now passed and that negotiations, which perhaps at that point in time may have been sensitive, may no longer be sensitive, are you able to take on notice whether or not you can now provide an unredacted version or a version with less redaction based on what is now no longer perhaps commercially sensitive?

Mr Morrow: I think it is fair that we can take on notice the consideration of such, yes.unredacted version – Startegic Review

Answer:

The redactions to the Strategic Review were done in consultation with a number of external providers who had provided confidential network and other information during the review process. To go back through the document now and, in consultation with these external parties, determine whether the information remains commercially sensitive or not would be a significant undertaking and a significant diversion of resources.