

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Group: 2**

**Program: 1.1**

**Question: BE14/046**

**Senator SINGH asked the following question at the hearing on 26-29 May 2014:**

Senator SINGH: Can I turn to the terms of reference. Have any stakeholders asked to be completely exempt from this PPS regime?

Mr Walter: In the context of the review?

Senator SINGH: Yes.

Mr Walter: Unfortunately, that would be a question I would really have to check with the reviewer on. We do have an independent reviewer. He is doing that. I know his consultation with stakeholders has only just begun. I think it is probably too early to say. It may be one that you want to come back to next time, Senator.

Senator SINGH: Okay.

Mr Walter: He has only just started those consultations. There is a call for submissions and there has only been a small number, I understand.

Senator SINGH: The AFSA does not have anything to do with the review?

Mr Walter: Of course, they have been consulted. The reviewer has already met with them. The department provides the secretariat support and all of those sorts of things.

Senator SINGH: Will there be public submissions made available, like on the Attorney-General's Department website?

Mr Walter: I will just have to check. The reviewer has called for submissions. I will just have to check the terms in which he has called for them, whether he has agreed that they will be public or not public. I think he has probably given people the option of making confidential submissions to him. I will check that for you and give you an answer on notice, if that is okay.

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

No stakeholders asked to be completely exempt from the PPS regime in the context of the review.

As agreed with the independent reviewer, all submissions made to the review will be published on the review website unless the author of the submission requests that they be kept confidential. The website is accessible at <http://www.ag.gov.au/ppsareview>.