

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 212

Program No. NBN Co

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Briefings for other parties

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. Have any briefings and/or provision of information have been provided to the Australian Greens? If yes, please include:
 - a) How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.
 - d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.
 - e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
2. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Independents? If yes, please include:
 - a) How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.
 - d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.
 - e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
 - f) Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information?
3. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to parties other than Labor or the Greens? If yes, please include:
 - a) How are briefings requests commissioned?
 - b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.
 - c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information.
 - d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed.
 - e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification.
 - f) Which parties have requested briefings and/or information?

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Answer:

It is a vital part of NBN Co's communications activities to ensure local communities are informed about the NBN. This can include assisting members of local, state and federal governments with requests for information and briefings on the NBN rollout. These requests can be commissioned in a number of ways, including through direct contact with NBN Co stakeholder relations officers or through Ministers' offices. This information can take many forms including background information relating to fibre, satellite or wireless, network rollout information in particular areas, or information relating to communications activities.

It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources for NBN Co to attempt to compile a list of each briefing. It is not possible to quantify the time spent on such requests as they form part of the normal business operations for members of the stakeholder relations and communications teams.