

**Environment, Communications and the Arts Legislation Committee**  
**Additional Estimates 2009-10 - 8 February 2010**  
**Broadband Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio**  
**Questions on Notice**

| <b>Question No</b> | <b>(Hansard Page or Written.)</b> | <b>Senator</b> | <b>Program / Agency</b> | <b>Question</b>   | <b>Date Rec'd</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1                  | ECA 8                             | Troeth         | <b>Australia Post</b>   | <b>Post Logistics Australasia</b><br>Were the PLA board members subject to the cap on performance bonuses that applied to other Post Logistics staff?<br>How many formal grievances have been received from staff who were either terminated or had their terms and conditions of employment eroded to cover those business losses?   | 06/04/10          |
| 2                  | ECA 10                            | Abetz          | <b>Australia Post</b>   | <b>Industrial Action over Christmas Period - Cost</b><br>Can Australia Post outline the costs in detail, and in total, incurred to its business as a result of the industrial action taken by the CEPU over the Christmas period 2009?  | 10/05/10          |
| 3                  | ECA 11                            | Abetz          | <b>Australia Post</b>   | <b>Mail Redirection Fees for Not-For-Profit Organisations</b><br>Has Australia Post considered a varying rate for not-for-profit organisations, especially one (the Australian Privacy Foundation) that I am told does not have much mail for Australia Post to attend to?  | 06/04/10          |
| 4                  | ECA 12                            | Abetz          | <b>Australia Post</b>   | <b>Electronic Parcel Cubing Device</b><br>On the counter, you would be able to use this product – I think it is called “CubeCalc”. A design has been put forward to Australia Post for consideration. Are you aware of that?  | 06/04/10          |
| 5                  | a) and b) Written c) ECA 12       | Abetz          | <b>Australia Post</b>   | <b>Managing Director – Performance Indicators</b><br>a) Is Mr Ahmed Fahour employed under a contract? If so, what is the term of his contract?<br>b) Are there performance targets in his contract? If so, will Australia Post stakeholders and staff be informed of these performance targets?<br>c) Can you tell us when those performance indicators will be set and also whether those performance indicators and performance targets will be made publicly known?    | 14/04/10          |
| 6                  | a) ECA 13 b) and c) Written       | Abetz          | <b>Australia Post</b>   | <b>Removal of Qld State Government Fuel Subsidy</b><br>a) Do you have any information on that – the impact on contractors of the state government’s removal of the fuel subsidy?<br>b) When the fuel subsidy in Qld was removed, did Australia Post automatically increase the fuel component of all Queensland contracts?<br>c) If not, has Australia Post promptly processed all fuel price review requests lodged by contractors following the removal of the subsidy? | 06/04/10          |
| 7                  | ECA 14                            | Abetz          | <b>Australia Post</b>   | <b>Licensed Post Offices – Support Network (follow-up to QoN 72 from October 2009 hearing)</b><br>a) Can you give us the highest number of LPOs that one network manager might be responsible for?<br>b) What sorts of support mechanisms are in place for those network managers?  | 06/04/10          |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator  | Program / Agency      | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------|--|------------|
| 8           | ECA 16 & 17                | Fielding | <b>Australia Post</b> | <p><b>CyberLock System - Surveillance</b></p> <p>a) Who is the person in Australia Post responsible for authorising that (depot box) surveillance?</p> <p>b) Was it checked off with the in-house legal department before giving approval to set up this type of surveillance?</p> <p>c) How much this does computerised surveillance cost? I would like to know the cost per box and then the total cost.</p> <p>d) Concerning the surveillance cases involving Obst, Munsman and Chapman, I would like to know what the total cost is to Australia Post each year of this sort of surveillance.</p>                                  | 06/04/10   |
| 9           | ECA 18                     | Fisher   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <p><b>Koroit Licensed Post Office</b></p> <p>a) Can you provide the committee with a copy of Australia Post's letter to the Lees of 8 October 2008?</p> <p>b) When did Australia Post first tell the Lees that the game was over, that Warrnambool was actually happening?</p>   | 06/04/10   |
| 10          | ECA 19                     | Fisher   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <p><b>Licensed Post Offices – Removal of Sorting/Delivery Functions</b></p> <p>a) Are there any other post offices around the country facing a similar predicament with the decentralisation of the sorting/delivery arrangements?</p> <p>b) Are you able to provide the committee on notice with an indication of who, what and where in that respect?</p>  | 14/04/10   |
| 11          | ECA 20                     | Wortley  | <b>Australia Post</b> | <p><b>Mercedes Benz Mail Vans</b></p> <p>a) How many Mercedes Benz mail vans do you actually have operating?</p> <p>b) Are they all in operation or are there some that are still in waiting?</p> <p>c) What is the expected number?</p> <p>d) During the Fair Work hearing, was it the case that you conceded that drivers did have to reverse blind into oncoming traffic when they were reversing out of angle parking?</p> <p>e) Is it correct that about 10 per cent of 15,900 stops each day involve angle parking?</p> <p>f) Has a costing been done as to how much it would actually cost to put rear windows in the vans?</p> | 06/04/10   |
| 12          | ECA 22                     | Wortley  | <b>Australia Post</b> | <p><b>Industrial Action over Christmas Period</b></p> <p>On the weekend of 19 and 20 December, there was no industrial action or notified strike action but the workers who had participated previously were told that they could not do overtime on that weekend.</p> <p>Did that in fact result in mail not being processed or the hold-up of mail being processed?</p> <p>Are you aware that at the Western Shore Delivery Centre in Tasmania team leaders were spoken to regarding industrial action and that they were questioned about actually taking industrial action?</p>  | 06/04/10   |
| 13          | Written                    | Fisher   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <p><b>Australia Post Hospitality Expenditure</b></p> <p>a) What has been the total cost on hospitality by Australia Post to date in 2009-10?</p> <p>b) What functions have been held?</p> <p>c) How many Australia Post Christmas Functions were held? If more than one, please indicate which business unit hosted each.</p>  | 06/04/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency      | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         |                       | d) In respect of each official function hosted by Australia Post in 2009-10 please provide; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The name and reason for the event ,</li> <li>2. The business unit hosting the event,</li> <li>3. The date and location,</li> <li>4. The number of attendees,</li> <li>5. An itemised costing,</li> <li>6. A cost per head, and,</li> <li>7. The total cost for each function.</li> </ol>   |            |
| 14          | Written                    | Abetz   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <b>TAB third party agency work</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Australia Post has previously stated that it would not be involved in gambling-related business, including selling lottery tickets. What change has occurred such that Australia Post is now transacting business for TAB?</li> <li>b) If Australia Post staff or Licensees are conscientious objectors to gambling, or if they have faith-related concerns, what procedures does Australia Post have in place to ensure that these concerns are respected?</li> <li>c) Is Australia Post seeking any other gambling-related business?</li> </ol>   | 06/04/10   |
| 15          | Written                    | Abetz   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <b>Australia Post “Authorised Holiday”</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Please give the historical context for Australia Post staff taking an extra day’s holiday between Christmas and New Year while the rest of the nation is at work.</li> <li>b) How does the “Authorised Holiday” impact on guaranteed delivery services such as Express Post?</li> <li>c) Are customers informed of the impact of the “Authorised Holiday” on delivery services?</li> <li>d) Why doesn’t Australia Post deliver mail on the “Authorised Holiday”?</li> <li>e) What support is available to those Licensed Post Offices that are open when the rest of Australia Post is on holiday?</li> </ol> | 06/04/10   |
| 16          | Written                    | Abetz   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <b>Australia Post car insurance business</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What is the dollar value given to the Australia Post brand?</li> <li>b) Services such as insurance trade off rather than enhance Australia Post’s position as one of the nation’s most trusted companies. Has Australia Post assessed the risk to Australia Post’s image and standing by the motor vehicle insurance?</li> <li>c) How did Australia Post select the insurance company used for the motor vehicle insurance business?</li> </ol>   | 06/04/10   |
| 17          | Written                    | Abetz   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <b>Strategies to Improve Productivity – Deeper Automation in Delivery Network (follow-up question relating to question 58 from Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings in October 2009)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) As part of the programme to implement greater automated sorting, will sequenced mail be extended to metropolitan post offices (including Licensed Post Offices) with PO Boxes?</li> <li>b) Australia Post has said that it expects to save approximately 30 minutes per day for each</li> </ol>  | 06/04/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency      | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                       | delivery round sequenced. Is that time saved in sorting and setting up the round?<br>c) With such savings in mail rounds due to sequencing, how much time – and therefore costs – could be saved by sequencing PO Box mail in Corporate post offices and Licensed Post Offices?   |            |
| 18          | Written                    | Abetz   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <b>Australia Post Board/Managing Director (follow-up question relating to question 62 from Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings in October 2009)</b><br>a) Did the Minister consult with the representatives of industrial organisations representing employees before appointing the Managing Director or any of the current Directors sitting on the Australia Post Board?<br>b) What was the final cost for the search for the new Managing Director? Which recruitment company was used?   | 06/04/10   |
| 19          | Written                    | Abetz   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <b>Future Price Increases (follow-up question relating to question 67 from Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings in October 2009)</b><br>a) How much does Australia Post pay annually in sponsorship for:<br>i. Stawell Gift<br>ii. Australian Olympic team (break down for 2008 and 2010 Olympic teams)<br>iii. Australian Opera<br>iv. Australian Open<br>b) How many events or bodies does Australia Post sponsor where the sponsorship amounts to over \$10,000 p.a.?   | 06/04/10   |
| 20          | Written                    | Abetz   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <b>Executive Remuneration/Managing Director/Succession Planning (follow-up question relating to question 68 from Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings in October 2009)</b><br>a) We understand that Corporate Secretary Michael McCloskey is to retire in the coming months. Will the position be filled internally? Has a search company been contracted to find suitable candidates?<br>b) Is there a budget for the search for a new Corporate Secretary? Have selection criteria been set for the candidate search? If so, what are they?  | 06/04/10   |
| 21          | Written                    | Abetz   | <b>Australia Post</b> | <b>Customer Complaints (follow-up question relating to question 76 from Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings in October 2009)</b><br>a) Where Australia Post has determined that a Contractor is at fault for a missing or damaged mail item, what right of reply does the Contractor have?<br>b) In instances where Australia Post has deemed that the Contractor is at fault for a missing or damaged mail item, does any admission of fault by Australia Post jeopardise any insurance claims lodged by Contractors?<br>c) Has Australia Post sought legal advice on the consequences of admitting fault regarding missing or damaged mail items? | 06/04/10   |
| 22          | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Australia</b>      | <b>Portfolio Staffing – Australia Post</b>  | 06/04/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency      | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         | <b>Post</b>           | <p>a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?</p> <p>b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?</p> <p>c) What have been the changes in average staffing levels since November 2007? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?</p> <p>d) In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why?</p> <p>e) Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?</p> <p>f) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?</p> |            |
| 23          | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Australia Post</b> | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – Australia Post</b></p> <p>a) How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates?</p> <p>b) What level are these staff?</p> <p>c) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?</p> <p>d) Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>   | 06/04/10   |
| 24          | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Australia Post</b> | <p><b>Efficiency dividend/budget cuts) – Australia Post</b></p> <p>a) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</p> <p>b) If so, where and at what level?</p> <p>c) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>d) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p>  | 06/04/10   |
| 25          | ECA 24                     | Cormann | <b>ABC</b>            | <p><b>Hopman Cup Tennis Coverage 2010</b></p> <p>Can you describe the most recent Hopman Cup event from the ABC's point of view, including ratings, format etc?</p>   | 24/03/10   |
| 26          | ECA 25                     | Cormann | <b>ABC</b>            | <p><b>ABC Production in Western Australia</b></p> <p>What percentage of ABC programs have been produced locally in Perth over the past two or three years, how many programs previously produced in Perth are no longer produced there, and how many programs are planned for future production?</p>  | 31/03/10   |
| 27          | ECA 26                     | Lundy   | <b>ABC</b>            | <p><b>ABC Coverage of Women's Sport - Ratings</b></p> <p>With regard to the Women's National Basketball League (WNBL), how does coverage of the WNBL rate in comparison to events like the Hopman Cup Tennis? Could you provide a snapshot as to the ratings of other major women's sports events covered by the ABC?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 28          | ECA 29                     | Abetz   | <b>ABC</b>            | <p><b>ABC Presenters – Speaking Engagements</b></p>   | 31/03/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | Can you advise which high profile ABC presenters undertake paid speaking engagements?   |            |
| 29          | ECA 32                     | Abetz   | ABC              | <b>Correction – Lord of the Forest</b><br>With regard to the ABC's answer to Question No. 89 at Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings in October 2009, who had the authority to make the online correction and from which ABC studio or office was the correction made?   | 24/03/10   |
| 30          | ECA 33                     | Abetz   | ABC              | <b>Report of Off the Record Discussions – Mr Brissenden</b><br>a) With regard to the ABC's answer to Question No. 90 at Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings in October 2009, did the correction show the actual date of the document or just state that the date was incorrect?<br>b) Did <i>Media Watch</i> ever run a segment on this particular report? Can you confirm that the specific issue of the date was raised?<br>c) Did the ABC look at the fact that Mr Brissenden falsely claimed that the note was his own, rather than a collective note prepared by someone else? | 10/03/10   |
| 31          | ECA 34                     | Abetz   | ABC              | <b>The Chaser's War on Everything</b><br>Has ABC management from time to time condoned what is ultimately a trespass on private property because [The Chaser] are uninvited, not entitled to be in the place, but they gatecrash?   | 24/03/10   |
| 32          | ECA 38                     | Ludlam  | ABC              | <b>ABC Programs about China</b><br>a) Regarding an article in <i>The Australian</i> newspaper by Rowan Callick claiming the ABC was running pro-Chinese military propaganda in the form of historical documentaries, how did the ABC come to purchase the documentaries.<br>b) Since ABC management visited China in September 2009, has the ABC run anything by way of drama, documentaries or current affairs that has been critical of China.  | 24/03/10   |
| 33          | ECA 39                     | Brown   | ABC              | <b>ABC Documentary <i>The 10 Conditions of Love</i></b><br>a) Was the documentary scheduled for broadcast in December 2009; if so, why wasn't it shown?<br>b) Have there been any representations by Chinese officials to the ABC about that documentary?<br>c) Do you know when the documentary will be shown?   | 10/03/10   |
| 34          | ECA 40                     | Bushby  | ABC              | <b>Promotion of Greens Party Fundraiser on 936 ABC Hobart</b><br>With regard to presenter Andy Muirhead's interview with Rod Quantock on 936 ABC Hobart on 11 November 2009 which promoted a Greens Party Fundraiser, what action did the ABC take with regard to this breach of editorial policies?  | 10/03/10   |
| 35          | ECA 40                     | Bushby  | ABC              | <b>Promotion of Play <i>Keating! the Musical</i> on 936 ABC Hobart</b><br>With regard to presenter Tim Cox's mention of the play <i>Keating! the Musical</i> on 936 ABC Hobart on 2 February 2010, was he promoting the play specifically in its role as a fundraiser for State Labor candidates?   | 10/03/10   |
| 36          | ECA 41                     | Lundy   | ABC              | <b>ABC Open Initiative</b><br>a) How do regions attain the status of being regional and rural for the purposes of this project?<br>b) Will Canberra be considered as a region for the purposes of ABC Open?   | 10/03/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
| 37          | ECA 44                     | Wortley | ABC              | <p><b>Australian Content on ABC3</b><br/>Can you divulge some of the programming on ABC3 with regards to the Australian content section of it?</p>  | 10/03/10   |
| 38          | ECA 44 and 45              | Brown   | ABC              | <p><b>Australian Greens - Share of ABC TV Voice Coverage during 2007 Federal Election</b></p> <p>a) During the last election the Greens got 3.9 percent share of voice coverage on TV and some eight or nine percent of the vote. Do you know why that shortfall occurred in the election campaign?</p> <p>b) On <i>Lateline</i>, <i>7.30 Report</i> and <i>Insiders</i>, it fell to 2.3 per cent. Have you got any explanation for that?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 39          | ECA 45                     | Brown   | ABC              | <p><b>ABC NewsRadio report on forest certification</b><br/>In a recent announcement about forest certification, ABC NewsRadio referred to the protection of forests-for example in reserves and national parks-as 'locking up' forests. In other words it has taken on the logging industry's spin as a news factual matter. Is there some means of assessing when that happens?</p>  | 10/03/10   |
| 40          | Written                    | Fisher  | ABC              | <p><b>ABC24 News Channel</b></p> <p>a) Where will the funding for the new channel be sourced from?</p> <p>b) Will this have an impact on any current or future ABC programming?</p> <p>c) Will this require efficiency dividends in other areas, such as staffing reductions?</p> <p>d) What will be the ratio of new content to existing ABC content expected to be shown on the new channel?</p> <p>e) Will the new channel show any content from overseas? If so, what will these programs be?</p> <p>f) How many new staff will be employed to work on the new channel?</p> <p>g) Will the ABC be using content produced by the news channel for on-sale by the ABC's commercial arm to third party providers (eg Telstra's content businesses)? How will you calculate pricing?</p> <p>h) Will ABC News Radio revert to an audio feed of the television News Channel?</p> <p>i) High Definition TV spectrum was given by the Government to the ABC to "highlight the benefits of HD and drive digital take-up". Does the ABC consider broadcasting news in HD is the best programming to showcase the benefit of the format?</p> <p>j) When the ABC launches its 24-hour news channel, will ABC1 no longer be broadcast in HD?</p> <p>k) Will loyal ABC viewers who invested in HD receivers to watch high quality documentaries and dramas on ABC1 now lose that HD service?</p> <p>l) Did the ABC consult with the Department prior to the announcement of the ABC News Channel and in particular, the loss of HD on ABC1?</p> | 10/03/10   |
| 41          | Written                    | Fisher  | ABC              | <p><b>Staff appointed director to the ABC Board</b><br/>At the most recent election for a staff-appointed Director to the ABC board, how many staff voted in the ballot?<br/>What was the percentage of staff who voted as a proportion of;</p>   | 10/03/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. All staff eligible to vote?</li> <li>ii. The total ABC workforce?</li> </ul>  |            |
| 42          | Written                    | Fisher  | ABC              | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – ABC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?</li> <li>b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?</li> <li>c) What have been the changes in average staffing levels since November 2007? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?</li> <li>d) In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why?</li> <li>e) Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?</li> <li>f) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?</li> </ul> | 10/05/10   |
| 43          | Written                    | Barnett | ABC              | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – ABC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates?</li> <li>b) What level are these staff?</li> <li>c) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?</li> <li>d) Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</li> </ul>   | 24/03/10   |
| 44          | Written                    | Barnett | ABC              | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing (efficiency dividend/budget cuts) – ABC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</li> <li>b) If so, where and at what level?</li> <li>c) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</li> <li>d) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</li> </ul>  | 24/03/10   |
| 45          | Written                    | Brown   | SBS              | <p><b>SBS Program - <i>China's Capitalist Revolution</i></b><br/> The 9.30 pm program <i>China's Capitalist Revolution</i>, Sunday, 7 February 2010<br/> Who, in the UK, made this program, when and with what funding?</p>   | 16/03/10   |
| 46          | Written                    | Fisher  | SBS              | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – SBS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?</li> <li>b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?</li> <li>c) What have been the changes in average staffing levels since November 2007? Why have these</li> </ul>   | 16/03/10   |



| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator   | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |           |                  | <p>changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?</p> <p>d) In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why?</p> <p>e) Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?</p> <p>f) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?</p>                          |            |
| 47          | Written                    | Barnett   | <b>SBS</b>       | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – SBS</b></p> <p>a) How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates?</p> <p>b) What level are these staff?</p> <p>c) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?</p> <p>d) Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>  | 16/03/10   |
| 48          | Written                    | Barnett   | <b>SBS</b>       | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing (efficiency dividend/budget cuts) – SBS</b></p> <p>a) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</p> <p>b) If so, where and at what level?</p> <p>c) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>d) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p> | 16/03/10   |
| 49          | ECA 46-47                  | Macdonald | <b>ACMA</b>      | <p><b>Applications for variation of local area plans</b></p> <p>With regard to the Sweet FM submission sent to the ACMA, provide advice on the reasons for delay in acknowledging this outstanding request.</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 50          | ECA 48                     | Boswell   | <b>ACMA</b>      | <p><b>Free TV Australia</b></p> <p>Of the submissions received during the consultation process on the review of the code of practice, how many were individuals and community groups?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 51          | ECA 52                     | Ludlam    | <b>ACMA</b>      | <p><b>Black List used for Internet Filtering</b></p> <p>Can you provide a brief overview of the breakdown of material that currently lies on the black list?</p>  | 15/04/10   |
| 52          | ECA 53                     | Ludlam    | <b>ACMA</b>      | <p><b>URL Referrals</b></p> <p>a) What is the ACMA's current annual budget for referrals of URLs to the Classification Board and how much do they cost per referral?</p> <p>b) Do you have an order of magnitude estimate for how much it costs to make a URL assessment?</p>   | 15/04/10   |
| 53          | ECA 55                     | Ludlam    | <b>ACMA</b>      | <p><b>Residence time of the material that is on the black list</b></p> <p>a) Do you have numbers available as to the residence time of the material that is on the black list, specifically the RC portion of the black list?</p>   | 15/04/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | <p>b) How long is that material there for?</p> <p>c) Of 1,254 URLs about half are refused classification. How many of those are new?</p> <p>d) Are there any statistics or have you done any numbers on the average residence time of child sexual abuse material on a public URL of the kind that we are blocking here?</p>   |            |
| 54          | ECA 60                     | Minchin | ACMA             | <p><b>Restricted access system</b></p> <p>Can you provide details on the restricted access system determination that deals with not only content which is for over 18-year-olds but also for MA15+ content?</p>  | 06/04/10   |
| 55          | ECA 61                     | Wortley | ACMA             | <p><b>Cyber bullying</b></p> <p>a) Do we have figures on the number of children and young people who are cyber bullied?</p> <p>b) How are we getting the information about the programs on the ACMA website through to schools?</p> <p>c) How are schools finding out about that? Is that via email? Is there a targeted person in the school? Is it through the principal?</p>  | 06/04/10   |
| 56          | ECA 61                     | Wortley | ACMA             | <p><b>Cyber bullying</b></p> <p>Are you able to tell us what legislation there is already in place that would deal with perpetrators of cyber bullying and any programs that you know of that actually, particularly with young people, look at different ways of dealing with perpetrators of cyberbullying?</p>  | 06/04/10   |
| 57          | ECA 63                     | Lundy   | ACMA             | <p><b>National Harmonisation of the Radio Network</b></p> <p>What date was the strategic framework for the national harmonisation of the radio network signed off?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 58          | ECA 64                     | Lundy   | ACMA             | <p><b>Mobile phone jammers</b></p> <p>Can you provide more information about the context and the rules that apply to mobile phone jammers? Is there a legislative framework for their use in other jurisdictions?</p>  | 10/03/10   |
| 59          | Written                    | Abetz   | ACMA             | <p><b>Announcement of the appointment of Olya Booyar</b></p> <p>I refer to the ACMA media release of 20 January regarding the announcement of the appointment of Olya Booyar as General Manager of the new Content, Consumer and Citizen Division and I would request a detailed resume of Ms Booyar including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Education (Degree/s, University, Country, timeline);</li> <li>-Employment History (with specific title, company, base, description, timeline)</li> </ul> <p>Specifically, it is stated in the release that Ms Olya has 'extensive experience in media and communications'. Please provide a detailed history of previous employment with regard to "media and communications". What programming positions did she hold?; What executive management position both in radio and television"; and how long did Ms Booyar hold the position as Deputy Director of the Classification Board for?</p> <p>I would also request the education and employment history of Maureen Cahill who was promoted to the General Manager of Communications Infrastructure in December.</p> | 10/03/10   |
| 60          | Written                    | Fisher  | ACMA             | <b>Portfolio Staffing – ACMA</b>   | 10/03/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | <p>a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?</p> <p>b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?</p> <p>c) What have been the changes in average staffing levels since November 2007? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?</p> <p>d) In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why?</p> <p>e) Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?</p> <p>f) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?</p> |            |
| 61          | Written                    | Barnett | ACMA             | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – ACMA</b></p> <p>a) How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates?</p> <p>b) What level are these staff?</p> <p>c) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?</p> <p>d) Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 62          | Written                    | Barnett | ACMA             | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing (efficiency dividend/budget cuts) – ACMA</b></p> <p>a) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</p> <p>b) If so, where and at what level?</p> <p>c) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</p> <p>d) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</p>  | 10/03/10   |
| 63          | ECA 68                     | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Co. Organisational Chart</b></p> <p>Can you provide the committee with an organisational chart?</p>   | 24/05/10   |
| 64          | ECA 69                     | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Co. Staffing</b></p> <p>a) How many people are on the same level as Mr Kaiser, two levels below Mr Quigley? How many of those positions are there; how many of them are filled; how many of them are unfilled?</p> <p>b) Of those positions that have been filled two rungs below Mr Quigley, what percentage have been filled by referral and what percentage have been filled by other means—and what are those other means?</p>  | 24/05/10   |
| 65          | ECA 69                     | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Co. Staffing</b></p> <p>How many of those who are on the same level as Mr Kaiser were or have been appointed as the result of a referral process?</p>   | 24/05/10   |
| 66          | ECA 70                     | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Co. Staffing</b></p>  | 10/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | Were either of the other two officers who report to the same person to whom Mr Kaiser reports appointed by referral process?   |            |
| 67          | ECA 72                     | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <b>Appointment of Mr Mike Kaiser</b><br>Can you provide the committee with a list of the responsibilities that Mr Kaiser has as part of his job?   | 10/05/10   |
| 68          | ECA 74                     | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <b>Appointment of Mr Mike Kaiser</b><br>How long will the job that Mr Kaiser now has continue for? Is he on a contract?  | 10/05/10   |
| 69          | ECA 78                     | Minchin | NBN Co           | <b>NBN Co. Staffing</b><br>Can you provide an update on the monthly payroll cost of the 112 employees NBN now has?   | 24/05/10   |
| 70          | ECA 81                     | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <b>NBN Co Website</b><br>When will you change the title of the website 'NBN Co Interim Website'?   | 06/04/10   |
| 71          | Written                    | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <b>NBN Co Hospitality Expenditure</b><br>a) What has been the total cost on hospitality by NBN Co to date in 2009-10?<br>b) What functions have been held?<br>c) How many NBN Co Christmas Functions were held?<br>d) In respect of each official function hosted by NBN Co in 2009-10 please provide;<br>1. The name and reason for the event ,<br>2. The business unit hosting the event,<br>3. The date and location,<br>4. The number of attendees,<br>5. An itemised costing,<br>6. A cost per head, and,<br>7. The total cost for each function.   | 06/04/10   |
| 72          | Written                    | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <b>Recruitment of Mr Kaiser</b><br>a) How long after Senator Conroy suggested Mr Kaiser to Mr Quigley was he interviewed?<br>b) Specifically what dates and how many times was Mr Kaiser interviewed for the position at the NBN Co?<br>c) Who was present during these interviews with Mr Kaiser?<br>d) How long were the interviews with Mr Kaiser?<br>e) What was asked during the interviews with Mr Kaiser?<br>f) At what point of the process was Mr Kaiser informed of what his salary package would be at the NBN? Was this discussed before, during or after the interviews?<br>g) What process and investigation was undertaken by the NBN Co HR Department when assessing Mr Kaiser's suitability for employment?<br>h) How was Mr Kaiser contacted to see if he was interested in the position at NBN Co?<br>i) Who made this contact with Mr Kaiser?<br>j) Did this initial and subsequent contact involve Senator Conroy, other Ministers and/or staff from their offices? | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | k) What date was Mr Kaiser officially appointed to the NBN Co?<br>l) When did he officially start his position at the NBN Co?<br>m) What date was Senator Conroy's office informed that Mr Kaiser had been appointed to the NBN Co?<br>n) Is Mr Kaiser employed on a contract?<br>o) If so, what is the length of this contract?<br>p) What is Mr Kaiser's total annual remuneration and benefits package including salary, superannuation, phone, car, bonuses etc? Please itemise each benefit.<br>q) Is there any potential for Mr Kaiser to earn bonus or incentive payments? Please itemise and detail all and any.<br>r) Can you provide a list of senior staff at the NBN Co including their names, titles, responsibilities and remuneration packages?   |            |
| 73          | Written                    | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <b>NBN Co Recruitment</b><br>a) As a government business enterprise, does NBN Co have specific governance requirements imposed upon it, in respect of recruitment of employees and contractors?<br>1. If so, what are those requirements, and please provide any supporting documentation which exists.<br>b) Does NBN Co have a formal recruitment process? If so, please explain what is meant by 'formal' and describe the process.<br>c) Does NBN Co have a 'documented' formal recruitment process? If so, please provide copies of all and any documentation.<br>d) Does NBN Co have a documented formal recruitment process, by which:<br>1. Job descriptions are developed;<br>2. The job evaluated for pay; and<br>3. The position recruited?<br>If so, please describe each aspect of this process, and provide copies of all and any documentation.<br>e) What process did NBN co undertake to determine that it needed to recruit a Principal, Government Relations and External Affairs, when did it begin and end that process, including in particular the date/s upon which it decided to create and recruit for that position? Please provide any documents which exist in respect of that process.<br>f) On what date and in what form (verbal or written, and if written please provide copy) did Senator Conroy suggest Mr Kaiser as 'a possible person with the relevant experience'?<br>g) If individuals other than Mr Kaiser were considered for the position of Principal, Government Relations and External Affairs please describe those individuals (and if not by name, by some other demonstrable means including experience and qualifications) and the means by which they came to be considered; and if by referral, indicate by whom; and please indicate the manner and form of that consideration by NBN | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>h) Does NBN Co adhere to the Australian Public Service guideline whereby 'reasonable opportunity' must be given to eligible members of the community to apply for NBN Co jobs? If not, why not?</li> <li>i) What process did NBN Co undertake to ensure that no member of the community was equally or better experienced to fill and capable of filling the position of Principal, Government Relations and External Affairs, for the same or less remuneration than the \$450 000+ paid to Mr Kaiser?</li> <li>j) What process did NBN Co use to establish that Mr Kaiser has demonstrated a track record of experience and delivery, and how did NBN Co measure this?</li> <li>k) Of the 40% of NBN Co staff sourced through referrals from individual, how many and whom of those were referred in whole or in part by a member of the Commonwealth Parliament – and in those cases, by which member of Parliament?</li> </ul>   |            |
| 74          | Written                    | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Co Website</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Given media reported your full website was anticipated on January 10 2010, and is yet to launch at the date of submitting this question, has the anticipated timeframe for your website rollout been delayed? What has caused the delay?</li> <li>b) Is the website being designed and managed in house or outsourced? If outsourced, who received the contract? Was the contract awarded through a competitive tender process? Was the tender publicly advertised? How many companies tendered for the contract? How many were shortlisted?</li> <li>c) What is the total budgeted cost for the website?</li> <li>d) Is the website project running within the expected budget allocated?</li> </ul>  | 10/05/10   |
| 75          | Written                    | Minchin | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Co Limited Annual Report 2008-09/Working Capital</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Has the company received any additional equity injections from the Government in addition to the initial two injections?</li> <li>b) When do you anticipate that NBN Co will actually start generating revenue and for how many years do you anticipate running net deficits?</li> <li>c) What safeguards are in place to avoid extravagance and profligacy, considering there is this almost never-ending stream of Government money to draw on?</li> <li>d) How can taxpayers be assured that they are getting value for money out of the Government equity injections?</li> <li>e) How much has NBN Co spent to date on advertising and promotion, including job advertisements, web site development and the like?</li> <li>f) Has an annual Budget been set for this type of spending?</li> <li>g) Has NBN Co entered into any contracts with advertising agencies, employment/HR consultancies?</li> </ul> | 24/05/10   |
| 76          | Written                    | Minchin | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Co Staffing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Could you provide an update on the company staffing profile ie total number of people now</li> </ul>  | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | <p>employed?</p> <p>b) What is the company's projected employee costs for 2009/10?</p> <p>c) How many directors are on the board following the appointments of Clem Doherty and Terrence Francis in December?</p> <p>d) Are additional appointments expected?</p> <p>e) A media report (ZDNet 23 December) made the observation that three of the board members are ex-McKinsey employees; is this merely coincidental?</p> <p>f) What is the annual remuneration being paid to the head of Industry Engagement, Chief Technology Officer, Head of Program Management, Chief Financial Officer, Chief HR Officer and Head of Corporate Services, Head or Network Operations and Head of Commercial Strategy?</p>  |            |
| 77          | Written                    | Minchin | NBN Co           | <p><b>Appointment of Mr Kaiser</b></p> <p>a) Of the other senior executives so far appointed, how many of these positions were publicly advertised?</p> <p>b) In a Statement tabled by the Government in the Senate on 18/11/09 its says: "<i>NBNCo advise that the salary is consistent with equivalent jobs in other companies</i>". Can you provide some examples of like salaries paid for like positions, by fledgling companies that are generating no revenue and are producing net deficits?</p> <p>c) The statement says the Government was made aware of Mr Kaiser's appointment prior to its announcement, can you advise on how and when the Government was advised?</p> <p>d) Of the executive appointments so far made, how does Mr Kaiser's remuneration compare?</p> <p>e) Where is Mr Kaiser based?</p> <p>f) Is Mr Kaiser on a contract or is his position ongoing?</p> | 24/05/10   |
| 78          | Written                    | Minchin | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Co Office Arrangements</b></p> <p>a) Could you provide an update on office arrangements, which cities the company now has a presence; there were reports before Christmas that Melbourne would be the location of head office is this correct?</p> <p>b) Premiers were out last year offering various sweeteners in order to entice NBN Co to set up headquarters in their states, has the Victorian State Government offered any incentives or guarantees which swayed your decision?</p> <p>c) In response to Question on Notice No.52, in relation to monthly rentals currently being paid by NBN Co, the figure was put at \$72,492 for Sydney and Melbourne offices, is this figure still current or are additional rentals now being paid?</p>  | 24/05/10   |
| 79          | Written                    | Minchin | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Wholesale Pricing</b></p> <p>In October, Senator Conroy was widely reported as endorsing Optus analysis which suggests wholesale NBN pricing of between \$40 and \$70. He also mentioned speed offers ranging from 1 megabit through to 100 megabits.</p> <p>a) Does Mr Quigley also endorse the indicative wholesale price bands endorsed by Senator</p>   | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         |                  | <p>Conroy?</p> <p>b) If so considering the average broadband user pays something like \$50 per month retail and endorsement of wholesale prices of between \$40 and \$70, which would translate to in the order of \$80 and \$140 retail, doesn't this confirm that consumers will be paying considerably more to use the NBN?</p> <p>c) Based on Senator Conroy's previous comments about service offerings starting at 1 megabit, doesn't this mean that the minimum \$40 wholesale price endorsed by the Minister would apply to a 1 megabit offering?</p>  |            |
| 80          | Written                    | Minchin | NBN Co           | <p><b>NBN Fibre Network</b></p> <p>a) Has the NBN Co made any asset acquisitions, there had been speculation about a deal falling through with TransAct re its cable network?</p> <p>b) Have any decisions been made about pricing models, previously there was some confusion after Senator Conroy had said that there would be "one wholesale price averaged across the country", but in October you said no decisions on that front had been made?</p> <p>c) Just to pick up on a question from last time, can NBNC Co guarantee that every single home connected to the NBN fibre network will have access to a 100 megabit service if they want it, or will this be determined by the retailers operating in their area?</p> <p>d) Has NBNC Co made a final decision in regards to connecting each and every home, or does the prospect remain that cables will be rolled down the street and a house will only be connected if a consumer opts to take-up the service?</p> <p>e) On 29 January Comms Day reported that NBN Co is expected to soon make a "short-list announcement" in relation to project vendors for fibre to the premise equipment, has a decision in relation to the short-list now been established?</p> <p>f) The 10 per cent are among the most disadvantaged in terms of broadband provision, why has there not been more emphasis on bringing online new services in these areas as soon as possible?</p> <p>g) Have you made any progress in identifying who this 10 per cent is; who will get fibre and who will get wireless and satellite?</p> <p>h) You have also issued a Request for Capability Statements from satellite network operators (Submissions due February 15); is it still your intention to launch new satellites for service provision?</p> <p>i) When do you envisage actual new services will be delivered to the 10 per cent, will it be next year, the years after or when?</p> <p>j) Has the Government provided you with any directive to ensure service provision in under serviced areas (nationally, not just in Tasmania) should be the earliest focus of roll out efforts?</p> | 24/05/10   |
| 81          | Written                    | Fisher  | NBN Co           | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – NBN Co</b></p> <p>a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?</p>  | 10/05/10   |



| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator   | Program / Agency   | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |           |                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?</li> <li>c) What have been the changes in average staffing levels since November 2007? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?</li> <li>d) In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why?</li> <li>e) Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?</li> <li>f) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?</li> </ul>  |            |
| 82          | Written                    | Barnett   | <b>NBN Co</b>      | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – NBN Co</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates?</li> <li>b) What level are these staff?</li> <li>c) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?</li> <li>d) Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</li> </ul>  | 06/04/10   |
| 83          | Written                    | Barnett   | <b>NBN Co</b>      | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing (efficiency dividend/budget cuts) – NBN Co</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</li> <li>b) If so, where and at what level?</li> <li>c) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</li> <li>d) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</li> </ul>   | 06/04/10   |
| 84          | Written                    | Eggleston | <b>Program 1.1</b> | <p><b>Wireless Broadband</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Has there been any consideration of wireless broadband, given its increased popularity? Should the objectives of the NBN be re-evaluated given the change of broadband access towards wireless?</li> <li>b) Does the Department accept that South Korea has the best internet speeds and access in the world? Has the Department been working with the South Koreans? If not, why not? Are there any lessons for Australia to learn from the South Koreans?</li> <li>c) What is the extent of availability of wireless broadband around Australia?</li> <li>d) Does the Government have a view about whether wireless broadband services will reduce the demand for cable based broadband services?</li> <li>e) Is the extension of wireless broadband being actively promoted by the Department?</li> </ul> | 24/05/10   |
| 85          | Written                    | Minchin   | <b>Program 1.1</b> | <p><b>Tasmanian Roll Out</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What stage is the Tasmanian roll out currently at, is cable being laid?</li> <li>b) What equity injections has NBN Co now made to Tasmanian NBN Co?</li> </ul>   | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency   | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|--------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) It has been widely reported that the first stage of the Tasmanian roll out, to 5,000 homes will cost \$38 million, is this correct?</li> <li>d) On a per home basis, ZDNet reported that this would equate to around \$7,800 for each premise, how do you equate for the difference between these figures?</li> <li>e) There have been reports the overall Tasmanian roll out will cost between \$500 and \$700 million, is this correct?</li> <li>f) How much money is the Federal Government contributing to this project?</li> <li>g) Will the Federal contribution be capped or is the Government prepared to contribute 'whatever it takes'?</li> <li>h) What percentage of the first 5,000 homes will be connected via overhead cable?</li> <li>i) What local planning processes have been involved in gaining approval for overhead cable roll out?</li> <li>j) If take-up proves to be poor and suggests a state-wide roll in Tasmania simply will not be commercially viable, will the roll out proceed regardless?</li> <li>k) Is any thought being given to providing additional subsidies to encourage take-up in these areas?</li> <li>l) What analysis has been done to ascertain how many homes out of the 5,000 will choose to take-up the service?</li> <li>m) How will the entire mainland network be completed in eight years if it will take five years to complete the Tasmanian rollout?</li> </ul> |            |
| 86          | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Program 1.1</b> | <p><b>Implementation Study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What ongoing role is NBN Co having with the implementation study?</li> <li>b) It was reported last month (ZDNet 11 January), that an interim report was provided last August, is this correct and how useful was it in relation to guiding the company's activities?</li> </ul>  | 16/03/10   |
| 87          | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Program 1.1</b> | <p><b>Implementation Study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) In Senate Additional Estimates on Monday, 8 February 2010 Senator Conroy said he would "consider" whether he would publicly release the NBN implementation study?</li> <li>b) Is there a time frame or deadline on how that decision is made?</li> <li>c) When is the implementation study expected to be completed?</li> <li>d) When is the implementation study expected to be submitted to Senator Conroy?</li> <li>e) Will the Government publicly release the implementation study?</li> <li>f) At what stage of completion is the study currently?</li> <li>g) If it is not released in its entirety, will parts of it be released publicly?</li> <li>h) What has been the total expenditure on the implementation study? What was the budgeted expenditure</li> <li>i) What areas will be covered in the implementation study?</li> <li>j) It was reported last month (ZDNet 11 January), that an interim report was provided last August, is this correct?</li> </ul>  | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
| 88          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1      | <p><b>Terms of Engagement with Telstra</b><br/>Referring to the media statement the Minister issued on 18 December 2009 'Terms of engagement agreed between Telstra and NBN Co':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Could a mainland roll out of the NBN conceivably take place before negotiations with Telstra are concluded?</li> <li>b) When does the Department expect negotiations to be concluded, in the first half of this year or not until after the next federal election?</li> <li>c) Does the Department agree NBN simply could not be built on a commercial basis if Telstra does not migrate its traffic onto it?</li> <li>d) Can you confirm that the Government will roll out the NBN nationally in the event that agreement cannot be reached with Telstra?</li> </ul>  | 10/03/10   |
| 89          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1      | <p><b>Fixed Line/USO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Is the Government's clear preference for Telstra to no longer own or operate a fixed line network?</li> <li>b) If 10 per cent of the population, or 2.2 million people are served by wireless or satellite, who will be responsible for also delivering a fixed line service to them in the event that Telstra no longer operates a fixed line network?</li> <li>c) Is it possible that basic telephony will be delivered by wireless or satellite to people living in those parts of the country that will not get a fixed fibre connection under the NBN?</li> </ul>   | 24/05/10   |
| 90          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1      | <p><b>Rupert Murdoch and NBN Investment</b><br/>In an interview with Terry McCrann in the Herald Sun on 6 November, Rupert Murdoch said the Government had to decide whether it would hold the NBN as a public utility or sell it to private enterprise. "If the latter, it could only happen if the Government was prepared to write off half the cost openly upfront.<br/>"To spend \$40 billion to build it; to be prepared to sell it for \$20 billion, so that investors buying it could have a chance of a return."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Has the Department considered or provided advice on these comments? Will the Government have to write off half the cost in order to give any future buyers a chance of a return?</li> <li>b) Mr Rudd said back on April 7 said that this project "should give a return over time to the Australian people?" Does that mean if the Government invests \$15 billion, that taxpayers will eventually get that back, plus a return on that investment?</li> </ul> | 10/05/10   |
| 91          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1      | <p><b>NBN Affordability/Pricing</b><br/>In October, Senator Conroy was widely reported as endorsing Optus analysis which suggests wholesale NBN pricing of between \$40 and \$70. He also mentioned speed offers ranging from 1 megabit through to 100 megabits.<br/>Given the endorsement of wholesale prices of between \$40 and \$70, which would translate to in the order of \$80 and \$140 retail, doesn't this confirm that consumers will be paying considerably more to use the NBN?</p>   | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency   | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|--------------------|--|------------|
| 92          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1        | <p><b>Wireless broadband – Underestimated Demand</b></p> <p>In ACMA's 2008/09 Communications report released on 12 January states that there are now around 2.1 million wireless broadband subscribers, with a staggering increase of 162 per cent on the previous year.</p> <p>a) Does the possibility remain that the ratio of fixed to wireless broadband (90:10) under the NBN is likely to change?</p> <p>b) Isn't it true that when Labor first announced its support for a fixed line NBN to 98 per cent, that wireless/mobile broadband subscribers numbered only around 200,000?</p>  | 24/05/10   |
| 93          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1        | <p><b>NextGen Backhaul</b></p> <p>In relation to the six backhaul links funded under the Government's blackspot program, will NBN Co have to lease capacity from NextGen?</p>  | 24/03/10   |
| 94          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1        | <p><b>Existing Telecommunication licences – mobile telecommunications</b></p> <p>a) In relation to existing spectrum licences held by telecommunications providers; when will a decision be made in relation to re-issuance?</p> <p>b) How many existing licences are there and are these all 15-year licences? Do all licences expire in 2013?</p> <p>c) Has there been any progress in relation to developing a model in order to value existing licences for the purposes of re-issuance?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 95          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1        | <p><b>Spectrum Management</b></p> <p>On the 5<sup>th</sup> January the Government released a Green Paper seeking public feedback on the benefits and costs of maximising Australia's digital dividend. Submissions close 26 February.</p> <p>a) In relation to the digital dividend target of 126 MHz as outlined in the green paper, can you explain in layman's terms what this would mean nationally in terms of capacity for new services?</p> <p>b) What is the best estimate available regarding the value of spectrum that will be freed up from the switchover to digital television?</p> <p>c) Would a majority of this allocation be required to enable greater capacity in the wireless/mobile broadband, is that where you expect greatest demand for this spectrum to come from (This was the case in the US)?</p> <p>d) Have any estimates been made in relation to reduced value in the event that Telstra was prevented from bidding?</p> <p>e) Will NBN Co be permitted to bid for available spectrum?</p> <p>f) In relation to existing digital channels will a re-stack result in any or all of them having to change the frequency in which they currently broadcast?</p> <p>g) Will spectrum freed up from digital switchover be quarantined for the exclusive use of NBN Co?</p> | 24/05/10   |
| 96          | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.1Parts A | <p><b>Market Clarity Atlas</b></p> <p>On 31 July 2009, the committee received a response to a question on notice about whether the</p>   | 10/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency                                  | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|---|---|------------|
|             |                            |         | to<br>D<br>Corporate<br>and<br>Business<br>Part E | <p>Minister's office had agreed to purchase a Market Clarity Industry Atlas, which includes maps of telecommunications infrastructure.</p> <p>An answer was provided after the committee sought clarification about the question on 30 June 2009, end of financial year.</p> <p>The answer provided says the Minister's office had not agreed to purchase the Atlas, nor was it mentioned in response to a question about what material does the department and Minister's office rely upon to know where existing infrastructure is located.</p> <p>However, in the Annual report, p.133 Appendix 7 it lists the purchase from Market Clarity of the Australian Telecom Infrastructure Atlas – Complete Atlas (341 Maps) \$33,000.</p> <p>a) Why wasn't this particular purchase confirmed in response to the question on notice, when it is quite clear that at the time the response was provided that this Atlas had been acquired?</p> <p>b) Is this Atlas within the Minister's office or within the department?</p> <p>c) Is it used by both the Minister's office and the Department?</p> <p>d) Who made the decision to purchase the Atlas; was the Minister's office consulted prior to the purchase?</p> <p>e) It is mentioned that the Department has a Budget for the purchase of journals and other materials for the Minister's office, what is that Budget?</p> |            |
| 97          | Written                    | Minchin | Program<br>1.1                                    | <p><b>Second reading debate and vote on legislation</b></p> <p>On October 28 the Minister told the Senate: "I give a commitment to the chamber that the government will not be looking to bring on the second reading debate until the first week back after the break. The second reading debate <b>will</b> take place then. I will be in Egypt at a UN conference that week, so we will not be seeking a vote that week. We <b>will</b> be seeking a vote the following week when I return."</p> <p>a) Why did neither the second reading stage of the debate nor a vote occurred last year, despite the Minister's assurances?</p>  | 10/03/10   |
| 98          | ECA 18                     | Fisher  | Program<br>1.2                                    | <p><b>Contract activities for Koroit LPO</b></p> <p>With regard to contract activities for Koroit LPO, can you explain what is meant by the acceptance of the inaccuracy of advice the Minister provided to Dan Tehan on 20 January, blaming it on an unavoidable delay in the dispatch process?</p>  | 21/04/10   |
| 99          | ECA 52                     | Ludlam  | Program<br>1.2                                    | <p><b>Administration of the Black List used for Internet Filtering</b></p> <p>a) Has there been any kind of quantitative or qualitative research on the likelihood of accidental or inadvertent exposure to refused classification material online?</p> <p>b) Is there any evidence pointing to the frequency with which that occurs?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 100         | ECA 91                     | Ludlam  | Program<br>1.2                                    | <p><b>ISP Filtering</b></p> <p>a) How many other parties, commercial or otherwise, are you negotiating with-third-party providers-in order effectively to outsource the surveillance role that the filter will not be able to handle?</p> <p>b) Which parties you are in negotiations with and for what reasons?</p>  | 15/04/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency   | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|--------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         |                    | c) Were there any other interest groups with specific interest in the net filter that the Minister met with prior to the announcement of the policy?   |            |
| 101         | Written                    | Ludlam  | <b>Program 1.2</b> | <p><b>ACMA's Feasibility study into emergency service SMS</b></p> <p>a) Can the Minister confirm receipt of the ACMA's feasibility study into emergency service SMS access for people who are deaf or have a speech and hearing impairment?</p> <p>b) Which agency will take responsibility for the implementation of the SMS scheme?</p> <p>c) When will implementation of the '106' SMS scheme commence?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 102         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Program 1.2</b> | <p><b>Australian Broadband Guarantee - Compliance breach</b></p> <p>The Minister issued a press release on 8 December 2009 announcing that the Department had "moved swiftly" to address fraud involving two registered providers in the Australian Broadband Guarantee Program".</p> <p>a) Can you provide an update regarding this investigation?</p> <p>b) How much money does this matter involve and has it been recovered?</p> <p>c) In the media release it says mapping data was allegedly manipulated to change the eligibility of some customers, was this data held by the two registered providers, or data held by the Department?</p> <p>d) The Annual Report states that there are 16 registered ABG providers (p35), are the two providers under investigation continuing to deliver services?</p> <p>e) If not, what arrangements have been put in place to provide ABG services for their customers?</p>             | 10/03/10   |
| 103         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Program 1.2</b> | <p><b>Underestimated ABG Demand</b></p> <p>On 27 November Conroy announced that the Government had committed to "bring forward \$23.8 million" in funds to meet "strong demand" for the ABG.</p> <p>a) In the 2007/08 Budget \$271 million was allocated over four years, but in the 2008/09 Budget the amount was reduced to \$230 million over four years, could you confirm the current funding profile, following the announcement in November to "bring forward" \$23.8 million to ensure provider could accommodate all new subscribers for the remainder of this financial year?</p> <p>b) Why was the funding profile reduced, when there is clearly strong demand for the program?</p> <p>c) How many new subscribers have come online so far this financial year?</p> <p>d) Was the fraud matter being investigated by the AFP a factor in the Government having to bring forward \$23.8 million to support the program?</p> | 17/05/10   |
| 104         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Program 1.2</b> | <p><b>Under serviced premises under ABG</b></p> <p>a) What is the current estimate of under serviced premises and what metrics are being used to determine under serviced premises?</p> <p>b) Are you able to provide a state-by-state breakdown?</p> <p>c) How many premises are no longer considered under served, because of the department's recognition of Optus 3G services as metro equivalent?</p> <p>d) What happens to existing ABG agreements in those areas where subsidies are being provided in areas that by definition now have access to a metro-equivalent service as a result of Optus 3G</p>   | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency   | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|--------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                    | <p>now being recognised?</p> <p>e) How many households and businesses are currently receiving a subsidised broadband service under the ABG?</p>   |            |
| 105         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Program 1.2</b> | <p><b>Australian Broadband Guarantee</b></p> <p>a) In regard to the Adam Internet, WiMax network in Adelaide with support funding under the ABG.<br/>Were coverage maps of the network shown to the Department prior to the agreement to provide ABG funding to support the venture?<br/>Please provide copies of the network coverage maps to the Committee.<br/>Where are the 350 blackspots that will be 'fixed' by this program?<br/>Please provide a list to the Committee.</p> <p>b) What is the forecast ABG funding liability for this project over the life of the rollout?</p> <p>c) On 30 November 2009, industry journal CommsDay reported that \$24m in ABG funding had been brought forward to the 2009 financial year.<br/>Was this a result of the decision to provide ABG support funding to the Adam Internet public private venture?</p>   | 24/05/10   |
| 106         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Program 1.2</b> | <p><b>Subsidised Connections 2008/09</b></p> <p>a) Page 34 of the Annual Report says 36,671 connections to broadband services were subsidised in 2008/09, with administered expenses of \$84.2 million.<br/>Does this figure relate to new subscriptions, or does that include recipients who have previously entered into agreements with providers also?</p> <p>b) How does this figure compare to the previous three financial years?</p> <p>c) How many applications were received this financial year in total and how many were rejected?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 107         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Program 1.2</b> | <p><b>Speed and Download Standards under ABG</b></p> <p>a) How frequently does the Department review the ABG minimum standards?</p> <p>b) The Annual report for example states that even in 2008 the average monthly data usage of Australia is 4 Gigabytes, yet the ABG benchmark is 3 Gigabytes. Does the Department consider this criteria to still be relevant? Why?</p> <p>c) Given the average metro user has ready access to more than 1 Mbps in download speed, and the ABG judges metro equivalency at 512 kbps, does the Department consider this metric is still correct and relevant? Why?</p> <p>d) Does the Department believe that if the average metro user pays around \$50-60 a month for broadband, that the \$2,500 per year benchmark under the ABG may also in fact be too high?</p> <p>e) Did the Glasson Review recommend lowering the price benchmark?</p> <p>f) Will the ABG continue to operate throughout the NBN roll out period?</p> <p>g) Will the minimum benchmarks of metro equivalency under the ABG be substantially revised if areas of Australia start receiving higher speed NBN services?</p> | 24/05/10   |
| 108         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Program</b>     | <b>Regional Telecommunications Independent Review (Glasson)</b>   | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         | 1.2              | a) Does the Government still intend to contribute \$400 million to support specific recommendations of the Glasson Review?<br>b) How many recommendations did the Glasson Review make and how many in total has the Government committed funding to? Please itemise each.<br>c) When will the remainder of the Government's commitment be allocated?<br>d) Where in the Budget are the remaining funds to support the Glasson Review to be sourced from?<br>e) Will additional funding be reliant on new appropriations in future Budgets?  |            |
| 109         | Written                    | Minchin | Program 1.2      | <b>Realising our Broadband Future Forum (10-11 December)</b><br><b>The Get Ready for Digital TV Conference (30-31 March 2009)</b><br>Aus Tender contract notes show that the company <b>Event Planet</b> was awarded the contracts to organise both of these events.<br>In relation to the Broadband Future Forum the original value of the contract was shown as \$528,498, but the current value is listed as \$746,073. (CN239663)<br>A separate contract for events management services for the Digital Switchover Taskforce Campaign is valued at \$836,000. (CN 137243)<br>a) Whose decision was it to stage these events?<br>b) Apart from the PR value what was the actual purpose of them?<br>c) Event Planet was awarded the contracts to stage both events, did these involve a competitive tender process and were both tenders publicly advertised?<br>d) Why did the Broadband Future Forum contract start at \$528,498 and then blow out to \$746,073?<br>e) What was the total cost of the Digital TV Conference?<br>f) In relation to the Broadband Future Forum web site, were these costs included the contract or are they separate costs?<br>g) What did the web site component cost?<br>h) How many people were formally invited to attend each of these events?<br>i) Was the Opposition invited?<br>j) In relation to media invitations to the Broadband Forum can you confirm that only certain journalists were invited?<br>k) Who selected which media organisations and which journalists should be invited?<br>l) For each of these events how many speakers or participants came from overseas?<br>m) Did the Department foot the bill for international speakers and participants to attend?<br>n) Were these costs included in the contracts awarded to Event Planet? | 10/05/10   |
| 110         | Written                    | Minchin | Legal Services   | <b>Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission (Letter from Communications Minister)</b><br>During the Royal Commission on 16 September 2009, Senior Counsel assisting the Commission Jack Rush questions the DSE's Shaun Lawler about his witness statement.<br>He asks about a letter Mr Lawler refers to in his witness statement, from the Federal  | 16/03/10   |



| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator   | Program / Agency   | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |           |                    | <p>Communications Minister "highlighting the importance of infrastructure on Mount Big Ben". The letter was received on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2009, by the fire controller. It was stated that the letter highlighted the importance of the infrastructure on Mount Big Ben and the need for steps to be taken to protect the assets. [On this day the town of Beechworth remained under threat from fire]. Fixed wing fire bombers were tasked to see if they put retardant lines around the infrastructure, but the smoke was too thick.</p> <p>a) Who wrote the letter as referred to during the Bushfire Royal Commission on the 16 September 2009? [DBCDE secretary Peter Harris was secretary of DSE in Victoria at the time]</p> <p>b) What motivated the writing of this letter; when was it sent and who to?</p> <p>c) What are the assets referred to on Mount Big Ben and who owns them?</p> <p>d) Was the Minister acting on any particular authority in writing this letter?</p> <p>e) Is it usual practice for such a letter to be written during an emergency of this nature by a Federal Minister to a state agency?</p> <p>f) Wouldn't the Attorney General typically be the most appropriate person to write such a letter?</p> <p>g) Please provide a copy of the letter?</p> |            |
| 111         | Written                    | Fisher    | <b>Program 1.2</b> | <p><b>ISP Filtering</b></p> <p>a) What testing has been undertaken to measure the effect of the Government's proposed ISP Filtering technology on internet speeds?</p> <p>b) Has the filter been tested at the speeds mandated by the National Broadband Network proposal that is 12mbps and 100mbps?</p> <p>c) Is there any differential between the marginal effect experienced on download speeds, according to the type of internet connection used? ie.;</p> <p>i. Satellite connection,</p> <p>ii. WiMax connection,</p> <p>iii. 3G connection,</p> <p>iv. Fibre connection?</p> <p>d) Are there plans for higher speed tests before any attempts are made to implement the policy?</p> <p>e) Could you provide the most up-to-date estimate of how much mandatory filtering will cost the Government to implement and what costs will be involved?</p> <p>f) What recourse will businesses have if their web sites or parts thereof are inadvertently blocked under mandatory filtering?</p> <p>g) Please supply a definition Refused Classification material for the purpose of Internet filtering.</p>   | 10/05/10   |
| 112         | ECA 84                     | Macdonald | <b>Program 1.3</b> | <p><b>Regional Analogue Self-Help Transmissions and Regional Viewers who are unable to receive digital television</b></p> <p>Where and who are the regional viewers unable to receive digital television from those facilities mentioned in the Minister's letter?</p>  | 24/05/10   |
| 113         | Written                    | Ludlam    | <b>Program</b>     | <b>Digital Switchover Assistance Scheme – Exclusions for renters</b>  | 10/03/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         | 1.3              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What proportion of otherwise eligible households in the Mildura region will be exempt from the assistance with antenna and cabling because they are renters?</li> <li>b) Will renters with inadequate antenna access digital TV services following the cessation of analog TV services in Mildura?</li> <li>c) Will the scheme be expanded to provide antenna and cabling assistance to eligible renters?</li> </ul>  |            |
| 114         | Written                    | Fisher  | Program 1.3      | <p><b>Digital Switchover</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) In relation to the Mildura switchover area it is reported that 79 per cent of households have made the conversion, how can you be certain that the remaining 21 per cent will also convert prior to 30 June 2010?</li> <li>b) Can you advise on how much has been spent so far in the Mildura region and what that spending has entailed; the Annual Report (p5) notes the \$13.6 million announced for the area last year?</li> <li>c) \$138.7 million had been allocated towards switch-over activities over three years, is that figure still current?</li> <li>d) In relation to the announcement of 5 January re satellite, hadn't the Government previously committed to releasing a discussion paper regarding the possible use of satellite?</li> <li>e) What is the budgeted allocation of \$40 million per year over four years to build and operate a new satellite service, based on?</li> <li>f) Will existing satellites be utilised, such as the Optus satellites or will new satellites need to be launched?</li> <li>g) Was consideration given to the conversion of all existing analog transmission sites to digital and if so what would this have cost?</li> <li>h) The broadcasters have agreed to upgrade 100 sites, what will this cost them and what benefit do they get in return for this?</li> <li>i) Via the satellite service you say that all viewers will have access to the three commercial channels, ABC and SBS as well as ABC2, ABC3, SBS Two, Go, 7TWO and One HD, will viewers be required to pay an annual subscription or will annual provision be fully subsidised by the Government?</li> <li>j) You say that local news services currently available in all regions will continue to be available via the satellite service, how will that work?</li> <li>k) Will the news services available in each region be televised at the same times that they are now?</li> <li>l) What other provisions will there be for local content, including advertising?</li> <li>m) What plans are there to ensure existing digital black-spots in metro areas or fringe metro areas will be eliminated prior to switchover?</li> <li>n) Just prior to Christmas it was noted that two large advertisements providing information about digital switchover appeared in The Australian weekend magazine. What did these two advertisements cost? Why were two advertisements, basically containing the same information placed in this particular magazine? Was this placement based on any</li> </ul> | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency   | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|--------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                    | particular demographic analysis?  |            |
| 115         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Program 1.3</b> | <p><b>Digital Switchover in Mallee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Will all arrangements be in place to prevent digital TV blackspots from the Yatpool transmitter (near Mildura) by the proposed analogue signal switchoff date of 30 June 2010?</li> <li>b) What are the detailed arrangements?</li> <li>c) Is the Department confident that viewers in Robinvale, Ouyen, Walpeup and Underbool will have access to an acceptable digital signal?</li> <li>d) In repeated correspondence to the Minister, the Member for Mallee has suggested that the digital conversion provides an opportunity to resolve viewing problems for the community of Murrayville which is still within the Mildura Rural City Council Municipal area but cannot watch the local news out of Mildura. Why weren't these suggestions taken up?</li> <li>e) Confusion abounds as to the provision of local news services out of Mildura. The Minister has already announced that some communities like Underbool will not receive an adequate terrestrially based digital signal and that it will have to be provided by satellite. Will such communities receive the local news at the same time as those receiving the signal terrestrially?</li> <li>f) Households in areas like Ouyen and new blackspot areas like Underbool and Robinvale, have spent thousands of dollars investing in aerials and cables to get a decent analogue television picture. What funding assistance will be provided to those who are now required to purchase new infrastructure to support a satellite service? Will recognition be given by way of financial assistance to those who've outlaid substantially to purchase now-redundant analogue equipment?</li> </ul> | 24/05/10   |
| 116         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Program 1.3</b> | <p><b>Digital TV</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Why has the Minister reached an agreement with broadcasters to only upgrade around 100 of the 600 towers?</li> <li>b) Why has the Minister not agreed to upgrade more of the towers?</li> <li>c) What advice was the Minister given about only upgrading 100 towers?</li> <li>d) Will affected local communities be consulted about the upgrade process?</li> <li>e) Why is the Government not upgrading any towers itself?</li> <li>f) How did the Minister arrive at the \$300 subsidy figure for satellite access?</li> <li>g) What does the reported \$600 cost of a satellite dish include? Will it include the tuner, cabling and installation?</li> <li>h) What if the costs are more than expected, particularly for those in more remote areas?</li> <li>i) If installation costs are higher for certain households will the subsidy provision be bigger?</li> <li>j) Will the Government pay the extra costs or will the individual be forced to pay the difference?</li> <li>k) What is the Minister's definition of 'local' news content? Does this include local sport and community information?</li> <li>l) How will the promised "local channel" work?</li> <li>m) Will people still be able to view local news and sport at the normal times?</li> </ul>  | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator   | Program / Agency   | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |           |                    | n) Will other local content be protected?<br>o) Will people still receive commercials from local advertisers?  |            |
| 117         | Written                    | Fisher    | <b>Program 1.3</b> | <b>Digital Switchover</b><br>a) Given only 1 per cent of people are aware of when the analogue TV signal will be switched off in their area, are there any plans to change the campaign? If so how?<br>b) How much more money is planned to be spent on the public information campaign?<br>c) In an article in the Sun Herald on January 31 <sup>st</sup> 2010 a Government source said it was “aware of the low awareness of the precise date of the switch-over” and that “future communications campaigns are designed to address this.”<br>d) Can you elaborate on what the “future communications campaigns” will involve and how these campaigns will address the staggering failure of the current campaigns?<br>e) Who is responsible for these campaigns? Who has final say on the content of the advertisements etc?<br>f) Can you elaborate on the strategy that has been used so far? | 10/05/10   |
| 118         | Written                    | MacDonald | <b>Program 1.3</b> | <b>Imparja TV in Alice Springs</b><br>Thank you for your response to supplementary budget estimates qon 28 about the \$7 million funding need for repeaters.<br>Is the assessment of Imparja's application for funding so support the digital conversion of their transmission facilities now finalised?<br>If not, why not? – when can we expect it to be finalised?<br>Will establishment of digital transmitters in the Imparja licence area commence this Financial Year?<br>If not, why not? – when can we expect it to commence?   | 10/03/10   |
| 119         | Written                    | Fisher    | <b>Program 1.3</b> | <b>ABC News Channel</b><br>a) High Definition TV spectrum was given by the Government to the ABC to "highlight the benefits of HD and drive digital take-up" - how is this achieved by the ABC broadcasting news in HD on its proposed 24-hour news channel?<br>b) What is the department's view about the fact that when the ABC launches its 24-hour news channel, ABC1 will no longer be broadcast in HD and viewers who have invested in HD receivers to watch high quality documentaries and dramas on the ABC will lose that HD service?<br>c) Was the Department consulted by the ABC prior to the announcement of the ABC News Channel? What did you say to the ABC about the loss of HD on ABC1?  | 10/03/10   |
| 120         | Written                    | Ludlam    | <b>Program 1.3</b> | <b>National Indigenous TV (NITV)</b><br>a) Given the recent ACMA decision to discontinue the Broadcast Australia trial digital datacasting service in Sydney on 30 April 2010; and given that National Indigenous TV (NITV) is carried on that service; and given that the Sydney area features the largest single concentration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who have come to rely on NITV's availability, what are the government's intentions to help NITV continue to be available as a  | 10/03/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency              | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---|------------|
|             |                            |         |                               | <p>free to air service in Sydney after 30 April 2010?</p> <p>b) Is it true that the frequency on which TVS will operate in the Sydney market is capable of also transmitting NITV as a discrete 24 hour free-to-air digital terrestrial standard definition TV service?</p> <p>c) Would the Minister allow NITV to broadcast in Sydney if spectrum were available?</p> <p>d) Given that NITV was created as a national service and to benefit Indigenous Australians wherever they live, does the Government have a digital terrestrial migration plan for NITV, and when will it announce one?</p>   |            |
| 121         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Conroy's attendance at Internet Governance Forum Egypt (15-18 November 2009)</b></p> <p>a) In relation to the Internet Governance Forum that the Minister attended in Egypt, when did he accept the invitation to attend?</p> <p>b) On what date did the Minister register for the event?</p> <p>c) What was the purpose of this forum?</p> <p>d) Was the Minister involved as an official speaker, panel member or moderator at any of the sessions which were held, as his name does not seem to appear among the many names listed on the programme for the main sessions?</p> <p>e) What exactly did the Minister do at this forum, was a just a case of sit and listen?</p> <p>f) Was there any scope for him to participate remotely, by teleconference for example?</p> <p>g) Did the Minister do any site seeing while in Egypt?</p> <p>h) Did the Minister consider cancelling his visit to Egypt given the forum coincided with a crucial parliamentary sitting week?</p>   | 17/05/10   |
| 122         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Consultancy Costs</b></p> <p>The graph on page 102 of the annual report (Fig 3.1) shows a dramatic spike in consultancy costs in the 2008/09 financial year. Total spending was around the \$18 million mark, in 2007/08 the figure was around \$11 million and in 2006/07 it was below \$10 million.</p> <p>a) Is the dramatic spike in expenditure on consultancies expected to continue in this current financial year?</p> <p>b) Is the department becoming increasing it's reliance on external consultants?</p> <p>c) Please provide a current figure on total spending on both consultants, external legal advice, including NBN Expert panel costs in relation to both the NBN Mark I and NBN Mark II proposal?</p> <p>d) How much has been spent to date on the NBN Implementation Study?</p> <p>e) What was exact amount of the contract for the Implementation Study which has been entered into with McKinsey/KPMG?</p> <p>f) Is there scope for this contract to be revised?</p> <p>g) Can you confirm whether or not incidental expenditure incurred by members of the McKinsey/KPMG Implementation Study team (travel, accommodation, meals) are included in</p> | 24/05/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency              | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         |                               | <p>the contract or are these paid separately?</p> <p>h) If paid separately by the Department, could you provide a breakdown of costs incurred for travel, accommodation and meals; including details of the accommodation ie where people stayed, cost per meal, modes of transport, including class of travel?</p>  |            |
| 123         | Written                    | Minchin | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Employee Performance Bonuses</b></p> <p>On page 124 of the Annual Report table 4.8, it shows that a total of 159 employees received performance payments totalling \$1.22 million and that 7 employees received payments totalling \$31,874 this financial year for the 2007/08 financial year (Table 4.9). The highest individual payment was \$27,617.</p> <p>a) Could you please explain the basis for which performance payments are made and how the individual amounts are calculated?</p> <p>b) Could you provide a break down of performance payments made over the last three financial years?</p> <p>c) When are the performance payments typically paid?</p>  | 10/03/10   |
| 124         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy</b></p> <p>a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?</p> <p>b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?</p> <p>c) What have been the changes in average staffing levels since November 2007? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?</p> <p>d) In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why?</p> <p>e) Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?</p> <p>f) Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?</p> | 14/04/10   |
| 125         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Portfolio Staffing – Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy</b></p> <p>a) How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates?</p> <p>b) What level are these staff?</p> <p>c) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?</p> <p>d) Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 126         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Election Commitments</b></p> <p>a) What is the status of each election commitment within the portfolio?</p> <p>b) Which election commitments are experiencing slippages? Why? Where relevant, what are the revised implementation dates? What are the implications of this slippage?</p>   | 24/05/10   |
| 127         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Corporate</b>              | <b>Electoral Reports</b>   | 10/03/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency              | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         | <b>and Business</b>           | <p>a) Are there plans to publish a full suite of electoral reports on the Department's website? If not, why not? If so, when? What data will be included?</p> <p>b) Does the Department prepare electorate level reports for Ministers? What data is included in these reports? How often is this updated? Why is this material not publicly available? Request copy of latest reports.</p> <p>c) Has electoral specific data been used by the current Government in any grants scheme since November 2007?</p>  |            |
| 128         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Consultancies</b></p> <p>a) How much has the Department spent on consultancy services since November 2007? How can the department justify this expenditure?</p> <p>b) Could the Department provide a complete list of current consultancy services. For each consultancy, please indicate the rationale for the project and its intended use. For each consultancy, please indicate why the Department or its agencies could not have undertaken the work themselves.</p>  | 10/03/10   |
| 129         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Advertising and Marketing</b></p> <p>a) How much has the Department spent on advertising and marketing since November 2007? Ask for justification of expenditure.</p> <p>b) Could the Department provide a complete list of current contracts. Please indicate the rationale for each service provided and its intended use.</p>   | 10/03/10   |
| 130         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Government Advertising</b></p> <p>a) What communications programs has the Department undertaken, or are planning to undertake?</p> <p>b) For each program, what is the total spend?</p>  | 10/03/10   |
| 131         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Finance and Budgets</b>    | <p><b>Discretionary Grants</b></p> <p>Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants since November 2007? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.</p>  | 24/03/10   |
| 132         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Finance and Budgets</b>    | <p><b>Grants</b></p> <p>Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?</p>   | 16/03/10   |
| 133         | Written                    | Fisher  | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <p><b>Commissioned Reports</b></p> <p>a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in communications and broadband since November 2007?</p> <p>b) Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.</p> <p>c) How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?</p> <p>d) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?</p> | 20/04/10   |

| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency              | Question  | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---|------------|
| 134         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <b>Hospitality Expenditure</b><br>a) What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD?<br>b) Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.<br>c) For each Minister/Par Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD.<br>d) Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.   | 12/03/10   |
| 135         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <b>Board Appointments</b><br>What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?   | 24/03/10   |
| 136         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <b>Community Cabinets</b><br>a) What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates?<br>b) How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting?<br>c) What was the total cost of this travel?<br>d) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?  | 14/04/10   |
| 137         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <b>Reviews</b><br>a) How many Reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency?<br>b) When will each of these reviews be concluded?<br>c) Which Reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates?<br>d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?<br>e) What is the total number of Reviews <i>both completed and ongoing</i> in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?<br>f) What is the estimated cost of these Reviews?<br>g) What further reviews are planned for 2009 - 10 FY? | 21/04/10   |
| 138         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Corporate and Business</b> | <b>Consultancies</b><br>How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.  | 10/03/10   |
| 139         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Finance and Budgets</b>    | <b>Portfolio Staffing (efficiency dividend/budget cuts) – Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy</b><br>a) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?<br>b) If so, where and at what level?<br>c) Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.<br>d) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar  | 21/04/10   |



| Question No | (Hansard Page or Written.) | Senator | Program / Agency            | Question   | Date Rec'd |
|-------------|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--|------------|
|             |                            |         |                             | programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.  |            |
| 140         | Written                    | Barnett | <b>Legal Services Group</b> | <b>Freedom of Information</b><br>a) Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?<br>b) How many FOI requests has the Department received?<br>c) How many have been granted or denied?<br>d) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests? | 10/03/10   |