

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury

Australian Taxation Office

Additional Estimates 17 February 2005

Outcome 1

Topic: Monitoring of disclosure returns to the AEC

Hansard Page: E73

Senator Brandis (Chair) asked:

I have one other question, and it is about procedure. Is it the practice of the ATO routinely to monitor disclosure returns to the AEC?

Mr Carmody—I am not aware of that.

Mr Konza—Not to my knowledge. We would have to take that on notice to give a definite answer.

Answer:

No. However, the Tax Office has accessed publicly available data, from the AEC, with the intention of reviewing the tax treatment of a number of organisations which may be engaging in political activities.

The possibility, and value of, an ongoing relationship with the AEC, beyond the use of publicly available data, is being considered.