

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates 20-21 February 2008

Question: aet 27

Topic: The Tax Design Panel – Reporting (30 April 2008)

Hansard Page: E31

Senator COONAN asked:

Senator COONAN—Thank you. I thought so. I just wanted to ask briefly about the Tax Design Review Panel. What are the steps that Treasury will be taking to make sure that stakeholders can provide input into the panel?

Mr Ray—The Tax Design Review Panel had its first meeting last Friday, which it did by telephone conference, and it has another meeting scheduled for this Friday. As you are aware, when the Assistant Treasurer announced the formation of the panel he said that stakeholders would be welcome to make submissions to it and we have a dedicated website set up on it through the Treasury website. Broadly the panel plans to consult with the obvious stakeholders but at the same time seek wider community input through making submissions.

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Senator COONAN—Just on timing, you have had your first meeting?

Mr Ray—I think the timing is that the panel has to report by the end of April. I think it is in the Assistant Treasurer's press release. Yes, the panel is to report by 30 April.

Senator COONAN—To the Assistant Treasurer?

Mr Ray—Yes.

Senator COONAN—Minister, will the report be made public?

Senator Conroy—I will take that on notice.

Senator COONAN—Thank you.

Answer:

The Tax Design Review Panel has been asked to report to the Government by 30 April 2008. The Government will release the report after the Government has considered the report.