

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Additional Estimates 2007-08

21 February 2008

**Question:**

AR-1

**Topic:**

Appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.

A list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.

All grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.

Requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Minchin** asked:

In preparation for the Senate Estimates Hearings which commence on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 2008, it would be appreciated if each Department could provide information along the following lines:

1. All appointments which have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards, with a brief outline of the respective appointee's credentials.
2. A list of all vacancies which remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.
3. All grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio.
4. Requests to the Department of Finance to move funds within each portfolio.

Could you please ensure that all Ministers are notified of these requests so that Senate Committees are in a position to consider the information provided during Estimates.

In future I propose that, Departments, as a matter of course, should supply this information before each round of Senate Estimates.

In addition, I request that the Government provide me with a complete list of election promises made during the campaign and which Department is responsible for the administration of each of these commitments.

The Opposition would like to have this information on hand by the close of business on Wednesday 13 February 2008.

I have copied this letter to the secretaries of the Senate Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees.

**Answer:**

- (1) Senator the Hon Chris Evans as Minister representing the Prime Minister in the Senate will respond on my behalf.
- (2) Nine vacancies remain to be filled by ministerial appointments. One being for a new director of the Snowy Hydro Limited board, another being for a new Chairperson for the Low Emissions Technology Development Fund and the remaining 7 are for the National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (including the chairperson of this board).

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- (3) Grants have been approved within this portfolio relating to assistance with World Youth Day.
- (4) Senator the Hon Nick Sherry as Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation in the Senate will respond on my behalf. The honourable Senator is welcome to attend Estimates hearings in future and request the information sought in this Question on Notice.