

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates 29, 30 & 31 May 2007

**Question: bet 2 (ACCC)**

**Topic: Phone Tapping Powers**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator JOYCE asked:**

1. Does the ACCC need phone tapping powers?
2. Will you be asking for those powers as a matter of urgency?

**Answer:**

It is the understanding of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission ('ACCC') that it does not have power to conduct, or to request the conduct of, telecommunication interceptions in investigating possible contravention of the *Trade Practices Act 1974*. Whether or not the ACCC should have any such powers is a matter for the Government.