

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry Portfolio  
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14  
21 November 2013

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

**TOPIC:** Productivity Commission's inquiry into the food industry

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 21 November 2013, Page 62)

**QUESTION No.:** SI-16

**Mr Lawson:** Perhaps I could go back to the food issue that Senator Carr was asking about. The Productivity Commission is doing the safeguards review of tomatoes and peaches, so I just wondered if—

**Senator KIM CARR:** I know they are, but they are also doing more than that, and I think you will find that one of the communications officers will probably draw your attention to a statement on AAP on 23 May 2013. It was across the food supply chain, not just tomatoes and peaches. It did do an inquiry with regard to SPC; yes, that is true. But I understand there is a broader reference provided by, at the time, Minister Ludwig, as part of their food industry strategy.

**CHAIR:** Maybe you could take that on notice and we could clarify that.

**Senator KIM CARR:** It is just that the officers did not seem to be aware of it, and given their normal expertise in this field I am somewhat surprised.

**CHAIR:** I am looking at the PC website; it is not apparent on their website. There are processed fruit imports, processed tomato imports. But if there is more to it then certainly please take it on notice and let the committee know.

**ANSWER**

The previous Government committed to a review of the food supply chain in 2014, however no such review is currently on the Productivity Commission's work plan under the current Government.