

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

**Question No. EW0195\_10**

Senator Cash asked on 1 June 2009, Hansard page 39.

**Question**

Regarding the ESA that we discussed where it was decided to bring on further providers, was there any discussion between the department and the providers that occurred prior to the offer being made to them? Can you outline the nature of those discussions?

**Answer**

In relation to the Nepean ESA there was no communication, either by email or orally, with tenderers between the time of the notification to preferred tenderers and the time of the final decisions of the Department.