

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Australian Electoral Commission

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2007

Question: F72

Outcome 2, Output 2.1.3

Topic: Friends of Indi investigation

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Given the Government's recent changes which lift the threshold for disclosure of political donations from \$1,500 to \$10,000 can you confirm if British American Tobacco had only donated \$10,000 to the Friends of Indi and that was their only donation would they even have come to light publicly?

Answer:

British American Tobacco's donation to Friends of Indi was dated 10 April 2006, at which time the threshold for disclosure was more than \$10,000.

If British American Tobacco had donated \$10,000 on this date, and it was their only donation for the financial year, British American Tobacco would not have been required to lodge a donor return.