

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Budget Estimates Hearings 2006-2007, 12-13 February 2007

**Question: PM 86.**

**Outcome 1, Output 1.1** (Economic and industry policy)

**Topic: Uranium Mining, Processing and Nuclear Energy Review Taskforce**

**Direct on Notice. Senator Milne asked:**

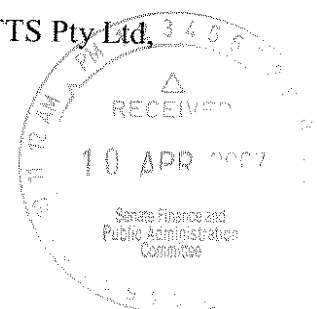
- 1. Why has the Taskforce not published feedback on the draft edition of *Uranium Mining, Processing and Nuclear Energy – Opportunities for Australia*?**
- 2. How many submissions to the Taskforce were received during the initial consultation process (officially 13 June 2006 until 18 August 2006)?**
- 3. How many submissions were not published on the Taskforce's website?**
- 4. Who were these unpublished submissions from?**
- 5. Why were these submissions not published?**

**Answer:**

1. The taskforce received formal public submissions from 13 June 2006 to 18 August 2006. The taskforce also considered public feedback received between 21 November 2006 and 12 December 2006 in relation to the *draft* report. In light of the public feedback, the taskforce included more detailed information in its final report. Contributors were not advised that comments on the draft report would be published.

As well as being released for public discussion and feedback, the draft report was reviewed by a panel chaired by the Chief Scientist of Australia, Dr Jim Peacock AC. The written comments by the Chief Scientist's review panel were published on the department's website on 8 December 2006.

2. 212 submissions were received during the submissions process. This total does not include additional or supplementary submissions from the same author, and counts campaign mail (comprising essentially identical submissions) as a single submission.
3. Our records show that three submissions were marked by their authors as confidential and were not published on the UMPNER Submissions webpage of the department's website.
4. The three submissions marked 'confidential' were received from METTS Pty Ltd, Nuclear Fuel Leasing Group, and Mr Zane Smith.



**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

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5. These three submissions were not published because they were provided to the taskforce on a confidential basis.

