

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2009

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 2, Program 2.1

Topic: Australian Government Domain Administration

Question reference number: F41

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 108 and 109, 27 May 2009

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 July 2009

Number of Pages: 2

a) Senator RYAN asked:

I am interested in when was the application for the website
'www.buildingtheeducationrevolution.gov.au' submitted and processed?

Answer:

The application for the domain www.buildingtheeducationrevolution.gov.au was received on 2 February 2009 and was approved and registered on 3 February 2009.

Note that AGIMO only approves the domain name, and does not assess or approve the associated website.

b) Senator RYAN asked

I would like you, if possible—I am trying to find a way to phrase this because I find the answers quite surprising—to come up with an answer as to whether or not you would read clauses 16 and 17 jointly or whether your office is of the view that the first four words of clause 17 about policy actually override the aspiration outlined in clause 16, if there were a clash.

...

Anything can be the domain name if it is a government announcement and meets the requirements of clause 16 and does not use the word 'Labor'?

Answer:

These specific provisions are quoted below:

16. Domain names must bear a direct semantic connection to the stated purpose. Furthermore, such names should represent a readily recognised concept associated with the stated purpose.

17. Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the domain name must not:

- 1. be a personal name;*

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2. *exceed 60 characters in length, including the first, second and jurisdictional levels of the domain name (e.g. example.act.gov.au or example.gov.au);*
 3. *consist entirely of numerals;*
 4. *have the same name as an Australian electoral division unless referring to the name of a local government entity;*
 5. *express a political statement or bear any semantic connection to a registered Australian political party;*
 6. *contain obscene or offensive language or otherwise prejudice the reputation or credibility of the gov.au domain;*
 7. *infringe the intellectual property rights of other parties. It is the responsibility of the Registrant to ensure compliance with this requirement. Applicants are encouraged to visit the [IP Australia website](#);*
 8. *refer or appear to refer to a State or Territory other than that indicated by the 3LD suffix (i.e. vic.nsw.gov.au)*
- The purpose of section 16 is to ensure that the domain name is meaningfully related to the purpose of the website. For example, an acceptable semantic link would include the use of the title of a program (or a recognisable contraction of the title) for the domain name of a website designed to promote and provide information on a government program.
 - The requirements of Section 17 augment the requirements of Section 16. In effect, an application for a domain name must meet the requirements of both sections 16 and 17.

The use of the word "notwithstanding" at the beginning means that the requirements of section 17 must also be met even if the requirements of section 16 are already met.