

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2010

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 2.4, Program Fee for Service

Topic: Ballot of members of the Electrical Trades Union

Question reference number: F71

Type of Question Hansard F&PA 68, 27 May 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Ryan asked:

In Victoria I understand the Australian Electoral Commission will be conducting a ballot of the 16,000 members of the Electrical Trades Union regarding its affiliation or disaffiliation from the Australian Labor Party.

I am not sure if you would have the details of the costs yet, but could you provide on notice what the cost of that ballot is?

Is this a commercial-in-confidence issue—the fee for service?

Answer:

The cost of conducting this ballot has been estimated at \$36,175.00 (inclusive of GST) as issued in the quotation letter provided to the ETU Victorian Branch. The final invoice will be issued to the ETU Victorian Branch when the ballot is declared in July 2010 and may be higher or lower, subject to any variations.

It is the view of the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) that any commercial agreement entered into with a fee-for-service client is subject to the principles of confidentiality. In normal circumstances the AEC would not disclose any information to third parties without the prior consent of the client.