

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearing 24 May-3rd June 2010

Question: PM78

Topic: Ministerial Staff Declarations

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

- a) Has the Prime Minister received any statements of private interests from his staff since 1 December 2009, regarding the buying or selling of equities or derivatives in resources stocks?**
- b) If so, can you please provide dates of when those statements were received, stocks bought or sold, and when the transaction took place?**

Answer: There is no advice available on the statements of private interests provided by staff of the Office of the former Prime Minister, the Hon Kevin Rudd MP.

The Code of Conduct for Ministerial Staff (the Code) requires ministerial staff, among other things, to:

- disclose, and take reasonable steps to avoid, any conflict of interests (real or apparent) in connection with their employment, noting that staff are required to provide their employer with a statement of private interests (Item 3 of the Code), and
- divest themselves, or relinquish control, of interests in any private company or business and/or direct interest in any public company involved in the area of their Ministers' portfolio responsibilities (Item 4 of the Code).

All staff of Prime Minister Gillard are required to provide statements of private interests, in compliance with the Ministerial Staff Code of Conduct.