

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2009

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

**Outcome 2, Program 2.1**

**Topic: NBN Co Limited**

**Question reference number: F37**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA page 37, 20 October 2009**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 December 2009**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator Coonan** asked:

**Senator COONAN:** Have Finance verified the operational costs for the NBN Co. for this financial year?

**Mr Lewis**—Senator, we would have been involved with the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy in analysis with the NBN Co. in relation to their operating costs through 2009-10. So, yes. But, if you want details, again we would probably need to take it on notice.

**Answer:**

The day-to-day operations of NBN Co, as a Government Business Enterprise (GBE), are the responsibility of the NBN Co Board of Directors.

As outlined in the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* (CAC Act) and the *Governance Arrangements for Commonwealth Government Business Enterprises* (June 1997) (Governance Arrangements), the Board is also responsible for keeping Shareholder Ministers informed as part of its ongoing reporting requirements.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation in its role supporting the Minister for Finance and Deregulation, as a joint Shareholder Minister, provides advice on the operations of GBEs, including operational costs.

Operational costs for NBN Co are also being considered as part of the Implementation Study.