

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 Statement of Corporate Intent

Question reference number: F38a

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: 2

Senator Coonan asked:

Senator Coonan—Is the NBN Co. required to prepare a statement of corporate intent?

Ms Hall—I would have to take that on notice.

Senator Coonan—Is there any reason why they would not?

Ms Hall—Some entities that are statutory authorities or statutory corporations are required to prepare statements—

Senator Coonan—Did you say ‘are not required’?

Ms Hall—No, I said, ‘are required’. Other entities that are GBEs but are not statutory corporations or statutory authorities, which NBN is not, are not required. So to give you a precise answer on that, I would prefer to take that on notice, if that is okay.

Answer:

As set out in the *Governance Arrangements for Commonwealth Government Business Enterprises (June 1997)* the directors of a wholly owned Government Business Enterprise and the Shareholder Ministers agree on a Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI), which is a public document. As NBN Co Limited (NBN Co) was prescribed as a Government Business Enterprise in 2009-10 it is not be required to prepare a SCI for that year. NBN Co will prepare a SCI for the 2010-11 financial year.

Question reference number: F38b

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA page 38, 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—Could you give me an example of who or which agency or company authority may not be required to provide a statement of corporate intent? I am just interested in the dichotomy that you have just drawn there.

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Ms Hall—Again, I would have to take that on notice and come back to you.

Answer:

Government Business Enterprises are (GBEs) required to prepare a Corporate Plan under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* (CAC Act) (refer section 17 for Commonwealth authorities and section 42 for Commonwealth companies). Statements of Corporate Intent (SCIs) are a requirement for GBEs under the *Governance Arrangements for Government Business Enterprises* document. Some entities that are not GBEs also prepare SCIs, for example Snowy Hydro Limited.