

**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 Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines**

**Question reference number: F43**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA page 40, 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**—...Will the requirement, which we understand would apply, to comply with the procurement guidelines be complementary—that is, will they be consistent—with the stated aim of ensuring that procurement opportunities will be there for local businesses with the rollout?

**Mr Lewis**—The first part of that, as I think I have already indicated, we will need to take on notice because it is not clear to me that the procurement guidelines applicable to FMA agencies will apply to this government business enterprise. On the latter part of the question, my understanding is that NBN Co. will be looking at creating opportunities for local business in relation to the rollout of the network.

**Answer:**

As indicated in the response to F42 the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines do not apply to Government Business Enterprises, including NBN Co Limited.

Any additional procurement obligations will be examined as part of the Implementation Study.