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: ICT Sustainability Plan - Implementation Outcomes

Question reference number: F52

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Senator Bernadi asked:

- .. Why has [the Department of Defence's PC shutdown process] not been rolled out through every government department to realise similar savings and carbon dioxide emission reductions?
- .. If Defence, which is one of the largest departments, and some would say a very difficult department to steer in a direction other than that which they are already heading in, can implement this and save \$5 million worth of electricity and 30,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide, I find it strange that other agencies, which are more nimble and agile perhaps—

Mr Tune—We will do a check if you like. We will have to get back to you. My feeling would be—and I have worked in quite a few agencies in the last couple of years—that it is pretty much a policy in every agency that when you go home at night you log off and turn off, so it is pretty much across the range of agencies. I cannot not tell you whether those agencies have actually measured the benefits they are getting in terms of improved environmental benefits and reduced costs but we will ask the question and find out for you.

Answer:

The desktop workstation power management solution is freely available to all agencies.

The roll out of the Department of Defence's PC shutdown process is dependent on an agencies operating environment, what software they are running, what requirements they have for after-hours use of computers.

Nine agencies have indicated that they have measured the benefits or savings as a result of implementing the Quick Wins.