

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation

Outcome/Program: 2/ 2.1

Topic: Procurement Regulations Regarding Paper

Senator: Rhiannon

Question reference number: F21

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, page 61, 18 October 2011

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Did the tender include any requirements that suppliers of paper ascertain the legality of that paper?

Answer:

The Request for Tender for the coordinated procurement of Stationery and Office Supplies was released on AusTender on 17 June 2011 and closed on 20 July 2011 (Ref: RFT FIN11/FMG010). Tenders received in response to the RFT are currently being evaluated.

Clause 63 of the Request for Tender outlined Finance's commitment to the sustainable use of resources and, specifically, the requirement for Tenderer's to comply with the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities' *Australian Government ICT Sustainability Plan 2010 – 2015* and the mandatory environmental standards applicable to the provision of deliverables to the Commonwealth. The mandatory environmental standards referred to in the RFT include *ES4 - Recycled Content Paper for General Use* which states:

'General use office copy paper to have a minimum post-consumer recycled content of 50 per cent by July 2011, with progression to 100 per cent post-consumer recycled content by July 2015.

Remaining virgin fibre content is to originate from chain-of-custody sources, such as Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified sources/forests, Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) schemes or from sustainably managed forests.'