

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 95

Program No. NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Strategic Review

Senator Urquhart asked:

With respect to the Strategic Review:

- a. Has NBN Co undertaken any work to validate or test the assumptions that underpin the redacted information on page 86 of the Strategic Review? If so can the values be provided to the Committee? If not, when does NBN Co expect to complete this work?
- b. Can NBN Co advise why it estimates the total number of premises passed by Optus HFC cable as 1.2 million (Exhibit 3.2) when in an earlier submission to the ACCC they and Optus claimed it passed 2.4 million premises of which 1 million are unserviceable (see questions relating to HFC earlier)?
- c. How is NBN Co tracking to the schedule detailed in Exhibit 4-11?

Answer:

- a. NBN CO will continue to review and validate all the assumptions of the Strategic Review. These will be made available when appropriate through normal communications by the company including Corporate Plans.
- b. The numbers in Exhibit 3.2 are broadly compatible with the submission to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC). The Strategic Review splits 2.3 million premises in the Optus HFC footprint into 0.9 million passed with a lead-in, 0.3 million passed without a lead-in and 1.1 million not passed (ie: the premises are within a larger area serviced by Optus HFC but do not have a cable passing in the street). The ACCC number classified this last category as “unserviceable”.
- c. On 8 April 2014, Shareholder Ministers wrote to NBN Co advising the company of the Government’s support for the Optimised Multi-Technology Mix model recommended in the Strategic Review. NBN Co is making solid progress in the implementation of the Government’s policy.