

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Department of Communications**

**Question No: 67**

**Program No. 1.1**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Independent cost-benefit analysis and review of regulation**

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

In reference to the *Independent cost-benefit analysis and review of regulation*:

- a. Was a forum with industry held on 24 February to discuss the review of regulation?
- b. Who attended the forum?
- c. How was it decided who would be invited to the forum?
- d. Will a transcript of the forum be included in the published documents of the review?
- e. Is it correct that Telstra's Dr. Warren advised the forum that Telstra has no interest in turning back structural separation?

**Answer:**

- a. Yes.
- b. Industry attendees were: Australia Competition and Consumer Commission, Communications Alliance, Competitive Carriers Coalition, Macquarie Telecommunications, M2, NBN Co, Nextgen, OptiComm, Optus, Telstra, TPG and Vodafone Hutchinson Australia.
- c. The panel decided to invite a group of industry stakeholders that were considered to provide a broad range of views in response to the panel's regulatory issues framing paper. This forum was a part of a broader consultation process for that paper where any interested party could provide the panel with a submission.
- d. No however, all of the organisations that attended the forum, except for Vodafone, have now put written submissions to the panel that are publicly available on the panel's website.
- e. Telstra's submission to the panel is available on the panel's website.