

Public Hearing of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services into the Regulation of auditing in Australia held on 09 December 2019 – Questions on Notice: PwC Australia

Question 1 (Hansard page 83) per Senator Whish-Wilson

Which of ExxonMobil, EnergyAustralia, Vodafone, Amcor and Ford were issued with special purpose accounts?

PwC Australia audits components of these entities. All of these entities, other than Amcor Limited, have parent companies that are outside Australia. None of these companies issued special purpose financial statements in their most recent financial reporting.

Question 2. (Hansard page 84) per Senator Whish-Wilson

Did PwC provide advice in relation to the multinational anti-avoidance laws to audit clients of PwC Australia, in particular ExxonMobil, EnergyAustralia, Vodafone, Amcor or Ford?

The Multinational Avoidance Law (MAAL) was introduced by Parliament with effect from 1 January 2016. It had potential application to all foreign groups (with annual global income of A\$1 billion or more) which supplied goods or services directly to Australian customers with the support of a local associate. Prior to its introduction, these companies were encouraged to restructure their affairs to comply with the incoming law.

PwC provided tax advice on the operation of the MAAL to a range of potentially affected clients or offered to provide tax advice to these clients concerning the operation of the MAAL. This would have included clients who were also audit clients of the firm. PwC Australia did not provide advice on the operation of the MAAL to any of ExxonMobil, EnergyAustralia, Vodafone, Amcor or Ford.