

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Additional Estimates February 2017
Communications Portfolio
Department of Communications and the Arts

Question No: 274

Program 2.1

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Topic: Productivity Commission report – Release of Submissions

Senator Bilyk, Catryna asked:

Senator BILYK: I do understand that. I might talk directly to the ACCC and try and get some feedback there. The last part of my questions today refer to the final report of the Productivity Commission. You released the final report of the Productivity Commission into Australia's intellectual property arrangements on 20 December 2016 and you announced a consultation period for submissions on that final report, which was due to close on 14 February 2017. Can you tell me when you might release the submissions received on the final report, and when will the government provide its response to the final report?

Senator FIFIELD: The government response to the Productivity Commission report is being led by the Industry portfolio—let me refer to it as the intellectual property report. There is an important component of the recommendations that falls within our portfolio. The government is preparing its response to that review. I cannot give you a date yet as to when the government response will be released. I will ask officers if there is anything they wish to add.

Mr Eccles: There is really nothing to add. As you would expect, we are working very closely with the department of industry, which has the portfolio lead on the Productivity Commission report. As the minister said, the work is ongoing.

Senator BILYK: Will the submissions be released?

Mr Eccles: I would need to check with the department of industry. I will take that on notice.

Answer:

The Government is considering the submissions received which provided feedback on the Productivity Commission's final report on its *Inquiry into Australia's Intellectual Property (IP) Arrangements*.