Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Spill-over hearing March 2017

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 339

NBN Co Limited

Hansard Ref: Page 61, 24/03/2017

Topic: Upgrade to Optus HFC network - Cost

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

Senator URQUHART: But if you had decided to go forward to upgrade the Optus HFC network, what would that have cost?

Mr Morrow: I do not recall the specifics on it, but again it would have been within the envelope that we had been talking about before.

Senator URQUHART: But it would have been higher than the 2,300, would it have not? **Mr Morrow:** The 2,300 is an average across all of the various HFC premises that we would be working on. I will have to take that on notice.

Answer:

The build costs would have likely exceeded \$2300 per premises if nbn had progressed with HFC in the Optus-only footprint.

The actual extent of the higher costs would have been dependant on factors including conditions of legacy assets, build distances, and commercial negotiations for construction.