

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates February 2017

Communications Portfolio

Australia Post

Question No: 76

Australia Post

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Topic: Project Dove - Leaked documents

Senator Abetz, Eric asked:

Senator ABETZ: Right, that has not happened. Thank you. Do you know its current whereabouts, or do Australia Post officials know of the current whereabouts of that analysis?

Mr Fahour: There are clearly—as reported in the newspaper; that is the best I know—slides that were produced inside Australia Post by some people down in the bowels of the organisation that have appeared in the newspaper. So somebody has taken the document—

Senator ABETZ: Does Australia Post still have those documents?

Mr Fahour: We would have the electronic copies, I assume—

Senator ABETZ: Can you find out, please—

CHAIR: Mr Fahour, if you do not know the answer, I think it would be easier if you could just say that—

Mr Fahour: I do not know the answer. I tried to say that.

CHAIR: and take it on notice so that you provide a detailed answer to Senator Abetz, because I am also not clear on your responses. As I understand it, the document was leaked. Is the question now, Senator Abetz, about the whereabouts of these documents?

Senator ABETZ: Yes. Does Australia Post still have the information or analysis known as Project Dove?

Mr Fahour: I will take that on notice.

Senator ABETZ: Take that on notice. If not, do you know its current whereabouts? And were there ever discussions between a union, yourself or anybody else within Australia Post about this information?

Mr Fahour: I am happy to take that on notice.

Senator ABETZ: And why was Project Dove never followed through on or delivered?

CHAIR: I think it would possibly be helpful for Australia Post if you could also put those questions on notice, Senator Abetz, just to make it very clear about what questions you are asking in relation to Project Dove.

Answer:

Australia Post has both electronic and hardcopy versions of analysis and documents prepared in connection with 'Project Dove'.

These documents and analysis were not considered or endorsed by the Australia Post Board or Executive Committee. When the Managing Director and Group CEO, and other members of the Executive Committee, became aware of the scope of Project Dove, further work on the project was stopped immediately.