

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Department of Communications**

**Question No: 552**

**Program No. 1.1**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Confidential NBN Co Board paper**

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

In response to Question on Notice 18 from the 17 December Senate Select Committee on NBN hearing which referred to NBN Co Assessment of Coalition Policy published on the Delimiter website, NBN Co replied “It would be inappropriate to respond to media reports of a document of unknown origin and unsighted content.” The Chair of the Committee refused Senators permission to table the document on the grounds of it being a confidential NBN Co Board paper. Did the Department advise the Chair that this was indeed an NBN Co confidential document?

**Answer:**

The Department of Communications did not provide evidence at the 17 December 2013 hearing of the Senate Select Committee on the National Broadband Network.

References to this issue are addressed in the transcript of the Senate Select Committee on the National Broadband Network hearing of 11 December 2013 (Hansard, pages 1-6, 32-34) and were available to the Chair of the Committee.