

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: 553

Program No. 1.1

Hansard Ref: In Writing (29/5/2014)

Topic: TUSMA

Senator Urquhart asked:

The explanatory memorandum for the Telecommunications Universal Services Management Agency Bill stated that creating TUSMA as a statutory authority would ensure transparency and accountability. How will that be maintained if TUSMA is folded into the Department?

Answer:

The Department is subject to the same transparency and accountability requirements as other Commonwealth agencies such as TUSMA. The Government has indicated that a Special Account will be maintained to account for industry levies used on TUSMA related functions.