

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: 573

Program No. 1.2

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Spectrum Review

Senator Urquhart asked:

1. Will a literature review of the “rich academic literature on the way in which spectrum markets can operate” be published as part of the spectrum review?
2. Will a clear guide to the current roles and functions of the ACMA, the Department and the Minister be published as part of the Spectrum Review?
3. Will a clear guide to subordinate legislative instruments be published as part of the Spectrum review?

Answer:

1. The results of a review of academic literature are expected to be considered as a part of the spectrum review.
2. The roles and functions of the ACMA, the Department and the Minister will be considered under term of reference 4 of the spectrum review.
3. The background to the terms of reference indicate that the spectrum review will consider whether the framework can be improved by adjusting what is currently in place or whether more fundamental changes are required. Under terms of reference 1 this will consider ways to simply and reduce the complexity of the framework. It is also expected to include consideration of the primary legislation as well as the range of subordinate legislative instruments.

The terms of reference of the spectrum review is available at:

www.communications.gov.au/consultation_and_submissions/spectrum_review