

**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: 578**

**Program No. 1.3**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: ABC and SBS board appointments**

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

1. Has the Department or Minister advised the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet that Board appointments to the ABC and SBS cannot be made until an additional appointment is made to the Nomination Panel?
2. Has the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet indicated when additional members will be appointed to the Nomination Panel for ABC Board Appointments so that a quorate meeting may be held to consider applicants for the vacancies on the ABC and SBS Boards?

**Answer:**

1. Yes.
2. The Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Dr Ian Watt AO, appointed Dr Janet Albrechtsen and the Hon Neil Brown QC to the Nomination Panel for ABC and SBS Board Appointments on 30 June 2014.