

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Budget Estimates Hearings May 2015**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Australia Post**

**Question No: 70**

**Program No. Australia Post**

**Hansard Ref: Page 73, 27/5/2015**

**Topic: Contracts**

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

**Senator URQUHART:** I have just been informed that we did receive it, and it was received as confidential, so thank you for that. Did ABnote get the work of printing the more than 10 million letters sent out by the Australia Post CEO to the community informing citizens of the proposed price hikes and reduction in service that is being proposed for the future?

**Mr Fahour:** I think that is the case, because that is who we normally get Post Connect to do our work with. As part of the contract which has the confidential elements in it that we signed with this commercial company, they would get that. But I am happy if you would like me on notice to—

**Senator URQUHART:** Is there no one here who knows that?

**Mr Fahour:** We think that is the case, but we will definitely verify it on question on notice if you do not mind.

**Senator URQUHART:** If you are able to do that, that would be great. What was ABnote, if it is them, or whomever, paid for this message to be produced and posted?

**Mr Fahour:** Again we can give you that in a confidential way, because that reveals their pricing to their competitors. If you would like us in confidence, as we gave you the other answers on notice, we are happy to send that to you.

**Senator URQUHART:** If you can send that, that would be great.

**Answer:**

As noted at the hearing, the information will be provided separately to the committee under standing order 25(2).

For information standing order 25(2) reads:

- (a) The legislation committees shall inquire into and report upon estimates of expenditure in accordance with standing order 26, bills or draft bills referred to them by the Senate, annual reports in accordance with paragraph (20), and the performance of departments and agencies allocated to them.

The committee considered receipt of the answer to question on notice No 70 as confidential information under standing order 25(2) and agreed to make public the following:

Yes. ABnote was the mail house who prepared the mailing.