

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: 76

Program No. Australia Post

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Topic: Australia Post reforms - Modelling

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

Mr Fahour: Yes. I just said a minute ago that consultation is really important. Therefore, if you really want to listen to what is going on in these meetings, and we have adjusted our situations, these numbers change very rapidly depending upon what you are agreeing or not agreeing. At the moment we are in the middle of these dialogues. That is why we have not locked anything in. We have deliberately not locked anything in. I can say that, in the next two months, we are looking to complete and conclude this work. When that is completed and concluded, if you wish, I can provide you with some of this data. But as you can imagine, it is sensitive, in the sense that we do not want to be necessarily providing data, when it is completed, of course, which then creates anxieties or excitement in different parts of our workforce. I am very happy, when it is concluded, to provide that to you if you wish to see it at that point.

Senator URQUHART: Yes, we would, thank you. So you expect that in a couple of months, did you say?

Mr Fahour: Yes, in August sometime we will have that completed. We have to let the consultation run its process.

Senator URQUHART: So you will have finished the modelling in August, and you will provide us with that?

Mr Fahour: If you insist on seeing it. I am just asking you for something—

Senator URQUHART: I am asking you to provide it.

Mr Fahour: Okay, and I am saying, can I please provide it to you in a confidential manner because I do not want to create anxiety in the workforce.

Senator URQUHART: I think the chair has just explained that process.

Senator Fifield: We might take it on notice.

Answer:

Australia Post is in the process of undertaking modelling that will assist us better understand our workforce needs over the next 2-3 years. Obviously such modelling is dependent on a number of factors based on the outcome of the reform decision, the price outcomes and the timing of any changes. We will also need to factor in customer behaviour and changes. On that basis we will wait until we have the final details of the operational changes and timing before we finalise our workforce modelling.