Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Budget Estimates Hearings May 2015

Communications Portfolio

Department of Communications

Question No: 9

Program No. 1.1 Hansard Ref: Page 26, 28/5/2015

Topic: NBN equity profile

Senator Conroy, Stephen asked:

Senator CONROY: Could you outline for us what they reduced and what the money consists of? Is it less for satellites? Is it less for this; is it less for that? What is it that they said to you that they did not need the money for anymore?

Mr Robinson: I would have to take that on notice, Senator.

Senator CONROY: You do not know or you are just refusing to answer?

Mr Robinson: No, we can answer the question, Senator. I just have to take it on notice.

Senator CONROY: Why would you need to take on notice something you have sitting in front of you?

Mr Robinson: I actually do not have that information, Senator.

Senator CONROY: I am sure you could have it handed to you. You just told me you do know. So you do not even need a piece of paper.

Mr Robinson: No, Senator. We have the information. We have it in the department. I am happy to—

Senator CONROY: Why are you taking it on notice if you have this information?

Mr Robinson: I am happy to try to get the information in the course of the hearing, Senator. I will try to get the information in the course of the hearing.

Senator CONROY: Your colleague who has just joined you at the table does not have it? He is incredibly efficient, I have always found. He seems to be pointing to something on a piece of paper next to you, Mr Robinson.

Answer:

An answer was provided later in the hearing (page 53 of Hansard).