Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings October 2016

Communications Portfolio

Australian Communications and Media Authority

Question No: 71

Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard Ref: Page 26-27, 18/10/2016

Topic: Lion FM – 96.1 MHz

Senator Abetz, Eric asked:

Senator ABETZ: I have a brief bracket of questions. I wonder whether you might be able to assist in relation to the Melbourne frequency or spectrum of 96.1 MHz—whatever that stands for; megahertz or something.

Mr Bean: Megahertz, yes.

Senator ABETZ: I thought it might. It was previously used by Lion FM. Is anybody able to provide assistance on that? It is one of the community—

Mr Bean: What is the nature of the question?

Senator ABETZ: I have been advised that Lion FM stopped using 96.1 for broadcasting some four years ago. Another community organisation has applied to use it and ACMA in its wisdom has denied it—in fact, it is J-AIR—from using it on I think three or four separate occasions now. They have approached me to seek publicly a reason as to why that has occurred.

Mr Bean: I think this is in relation to a community broadcasting service.

Senator ABETZ: That is right.

Mr Bean: Yes. I do not have the details of that application with me. I am very happy to take that on notice.

Answer:

Please refer to Question 72 for answer.