

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates

2016 - 2017

**Division/Agency:** Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

**Question No:** 132

**Topic:** Telecommunications anti-competitive conduct laws - Number of investigations

**Reference:** Hansard page 112 (01 March 2017)

**Senator:** Xenophon, Nick

**Question:**

Senator XENOPHON: How many investigations have the ACCC commenced in the last three years in relation to possible contraventions of part XIB? Is that something you can advise?

Mr Cosgrave: Those are conducted by my division. In terms of an absolute number over a three-year period, I would have to take it on notice, but I would indicate that matters are considered across all of the powers of the ACCC and to talk solely in terms of XIB versus other instruments we might have might be difficult, but we will do our best to be helpful in the response.

**Answer:**

In the period 1 March 2014 to 28 March 2017 the ACCC conducted eight investigations concerning allegations that were considered under the telecommunications specific anti-competitive conduct provisions contained in Part XIB of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth). A matter is classed as an investigation if the ACCC makes enquiries, for example with the complainant or company the subject of the complaint, to form a view on the complaint. Certain of the investigations conducted during the period noted above incorporated complaints from more than one party.