Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO OUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015

Department/Agency: Treasury

Question: BET 185-192

Topic: - Lobbying the big 4 banks Galilee Basin

Reference: written - 12 June 2015

Senator: Waters, Larissa

Question:

Lobbying the big 4 banks Galilee Basin

- 185. Have any of your officers met with or spoken to any staff from the Big 4 Australian banks about the Galilee Basin mega-coal mines or the Abbot Point coal port?
- 186. Can you take on notice to provide the dates, locations and positions of the officers present at those meetings or on those phone calls?
- 187. Please detail what those officers discussed with the banks?
- 188. Have any officers ever asked an Australian bank to make or not make any public statements about financing the Galilee Basin mega-mines or the Abbot Point coal port?
- 189. To your knowledge, has the Treasurer contacted any of the Big 4 banks to ask them to refrain from commenting publically on whether they'll finance the Galilee Basin mega-mines?

NAIF

- 190. Can you please explain the distinction between:
 - a. The negative fiscal balance impact of \$793.9 over 3 years from 2016-17 from booking the concessional component of the loans and;
 - b. The negative cash and fiscal balance of \$138 million over 3 years reflecting the cost of government borrowing?
- 191. Can you also explain the assumptions underlying those two figures? I.e. government bond rates, interest rates, take-up of loans?
- 192. In estimates, an officer from Treasury stated that the above costs do not assume full take-up of the \$5 billion facility in the first three years of its operation (2016-17 to 2018-19). Please provide the assumed take-up which was used to generate the above costs to government. In other words, please state how much Treasury expects to disburse in concessional loans across the current forward estimates.

Answer:

- 185. No
- 186. See previous answer.
- 187. See previous answer.
- 188. No.
- 189. No.