

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates
20 October 2016

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: IBM projects

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 20 October 2016, page 147)

QUESTION No.: SI-52

Senator KETTER: Thank you. My final questions relate to IBM projects. There was a report in The Australian on 15 August saying that IBM had '136 federal government department contracts worth almost \$700 million' last year, and the report states that these contracts include a number of government departments and agencies, including Defence, Immigration and Border Protection, Centrelink and IP Australia. What is your knowledge of these projects?

Mr Power: I am not sure I have any knowledge of the projects you are referring to, Senator.

Senator KETTER: Okay. Presumably none of these projects are worth \$20 million or more, given the total amount involved. If they were, surely IBM would have been required to complete an Australian industry plan.

Mr Power: They may do. I will have to take that on notice. I am not aware of them specifically off the top of my head.

Mr Lawson: We will take it on notice. Projects are allowed to apply for an exemption if the activities are happening in Australia in any way and any other Australian industry participation plan would not add value to the process. But we will take that on notice.

Senator KETTER: What you have taken on notice is: has IBM submitted Australian industry plans for any of these projects? Thank you very much.

ANSWER

IBM has submitted Australian Industry Participation (AIP) plans for projects that have identified AIP plan requirements.

IBM has three approved AIP plans:

- One General AIP plan (GPAIPPlan00027) which may be used multiple times for any single procurement or panel arrangement in which IBM is successful. IBM has submitted its General AIP plan to several agencies for their current and active standing offers. Agencies include the Department of Human Services, the Department of Health, the Australian Taxation Office and the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.
- One Specific AIP plan (GPAIPPlan00223) submitted to the Department of Defence as part of a tender process for Centralised Processing. IBM was not selected as the successful provider.
- One Specific AIP plan (GPAIPPlan00257) submitted to the Department of Human Services as part of an Expression of Interest process for a Child Support System.