5. Over the last 10 years, how many Senate select inquiries have run parallel with significant government inquiries? [This was widened to include standing as well as select committees.] (Senator Smith)

The Senate Department does not keep a register of committee inquiries which are duplicated by other (eg Government) inquiries. However, a review of departmental records indicate that occasions where this has occurred include the following matters:

| Year | Committee | Inquiry detail | Other inquiries |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2001 | Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport (Legislation) | Role of AusSAR in the search for the <i>Margaret J</i> . Referred June 2001. Inquiry deferred pending Coroner's report. Reported August 2004. | Coronial inquiry held in October 2001 into deaths of 3 crewmen. Coroner's report released 26 August 2002. |
| 2003 | Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (References Committee) | Military Justice. Referred October 2003; reported June 2005. | September 2003, the Chief of the Defence Force instructed the Inspector- General ADF to conduct independent inquiry into conduct of SAS soldier in East Timor (also covered by committee). Final part of report dated 20 January 2004. Later announcement in February 2004 of an internal review of the Military Police, conducted by Ernst & Young, completed July 2004. |
| 2005 | Corporations and Financial Services (Joint Committee) | Corporate responsibility – managing risk and creating value. Referred June 2005; reported June 2006. | In March 2005, the Government asked the Corporations and Markets Advisory Committee to inquire into the social responsibility of corporations. Reported December 2006. |
| 2009 | Environment, Communications and the Arts (References Committee) | Energy Efficient Homes Package (home insulation) inquiry referred October 2009; reported July 2010. | Program announced February 2009. Hawke review commissioned by Government in March 2010, reported April 2010. |

| Year | Committee | Inquiry detail | Other inquiries |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2009 | Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (References Committee) | Incidents on board HMAS Success between March and May 2009 inquiry referred November 2009; reported May 2011. | Chief of the Defence Force Commission of Inquiry established in February 2010, reported December 2010. |
| 2010 | Environment, Communications and the Arts (References Committee) | Green loans Program Committee inquiry referred March 2010; reported October 2010. | Green Loans Program commenced 1 July 2009, changes made to program in February 2010. Various government reviews conducted early 2010, including a performance audit by the ANAO. |
| 2013 | Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport (References Committee) | Practice of sports science in Australia. Referred May 2013; reported July 2013 | ASADA investigate doping in sport in January 2013. Inquiry still underway February 2014. |
| 2013 | National Broadband Network (Select Committee) | Committee established 14 November 2013 to inquire into the government's strategic review of the NBN. | Strategic review of the NBN. Report dated December 2013. |
| 2013 | Abbott Government's Commission of Audit (Select Committee) | Committee established 11 December 2013. | Commission of Audit initial report was due end of January 2014. |