

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Tender for Australia's future submarines

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 40

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Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 April 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: I am not playing word games. I am asking a very simple straightforward question. Did the Prime Minister promise Senator Edwards there would be an open tender for Australia's future submarines?

Senator Abetz: I have indicated to you what the answer is.

Senator WONG: Which is: look at Sean Edwards's statement.

Senator Abetz: Which I understand clarifies what was discussed between them.

Senator WONG: As the Minister representing the Prime Minister, can you tell me what was discussed between them?

Senator Abetz: I can take that on notice if you like. I do not have the full details as to what was said. But I understand—and I stand to be corrected on that—that Senator Edwards's statement to the Senate represents the position.

Answer:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet did not participate in conversations between the Prime Minister and Senator Edwards.