Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Status of deregulatory measures

Senator: Wong, Penny

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Type of question: Written

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Question:

Out of all the deregulatory measures listed in the four Repeal Day compilation documents (The Australian Government Autumn Repeal Day March 2014; The Australian Government Spring Repeal Day October 2014; The Australian Government Autumn Repeal Day March 2015; and The Australian Government Spring Repeal Day November 2015):

- 1) Which measures have been implemented;
- 2) When were these measures implemented;
- 3) Which measures have not been implemented, either in whole or in part;
- 4) What is the amount of deregulatory savings attached to those measures that have not been implemented, either in whole or in part;
- 5) Which measures that have not yet been implemented, either in whole or in part, require legislation to be passed in the Parliament to complete their implementation;
- 6) Which measures that have not yet been implemented, either in whole or in part, require administrative actions within Government to complete their implementation;
- 7) Which measures contributing to the total deregulatory savings figure are linked to measures that have been abandoned, either in whole or in part, by the Government.

Answer:

Attached is an excerpt from the recently tabled 2015 Red Tape Reduction Report. This provides data on portfolio progress on implementation for both 2014 and 2015, as at 31 December 2015.

- 1. Individual portfolios are responsible for implementing their own measures and are best placed to provide advice on the specific implementation status of each measure.
- 2. At the whole-of-government level, of the \$4.0 billion of net regulatory savings implemented, \$1.5 billion was implemented in 2014 and \$2.5 billion was implemented in 2015. Of the \$2.5 billion of net regulatory savings implemented in

2015, \$278 million related to decisions taken in 2014. Individual portfolios are best placed to provide advice on when specific measures were implemented.

- 3. Please refer to the attached table for aggregate data for both 2014 and 2015. Individual portfolios are best placed to provide advice on which specific measures are yet to be implemented.
- 4. At the whole-of-government level, \$824 million in regulatory reductions were yet to be implemented as at 31 December 2015. Individual portfolios are best placed to provide advice on amounts relating to specific measures.
- 5. Individual portfolios are best placed to provide details of measures yet to be implemented and that require legislation to pass in Parliament.
- 6. Individual portfolios are best placed to provide details of measures yet to be implemented that require administrative actions within Government.
- 7. As a rule, none.

Any measures for which a decision is made in the same year not to proceed, or for which the regulatory savings are reduced in the same year as they are proposed, are netted out by the end of the year.

It is possible for a measure to have been publicly announced in one of the past Repeal Days, to then have been subject to a decision not to proceed before the end of the year.

Measures for which a decision is made in a later year not to proceed, or for which the regulatory savings are reduced in a later year, are accounted for as new decisions in the later year such that the net regulatory impact of the policy is reflected as at 31 December 2015.