

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

16 February 2012

Question No: AET 16

Topic: Procurement – ATO's relationship with UGL

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Senator CAMERON: You do not use a company called UGL at all for procurement?

Ms Granger: I do not know. I am not aware of it.

Senator CAMERON: Are you in the process of procuring new office chairs?

Ms Granger: We could be. It is a big organisation, so there could be office chairs being procured at particular times. We will have to check on the detail.

Senator CAMERON: I have received some advice, and I am not sure how authentic it is, that you are doing a significant procurement of office chairs. Given the number, I am sure somebody would know. Nobody here knows whether you are doing a procurement?

Ms Granger: Not the detail, but we are in the process of opening a number of significant new buildings this year—one in the Melbourne area and one in the Adelaide area—and so it could be associated with that.

Senator CAMERON: Do you have some advice on it now?

Ms Granger: It says we do use UGL.

Senator CAMERON: Oh, you do use UGL.

Ms Granger: It says we do use UGL.

Senator CAMERON: You said you did not a minute ago.

Ms Granger: I said not as far as I was aware.

Senator CAMERON: So I will have to be careful with you, will I?

Ms Granger: I am not trying to be tricky.

Senator CAMERON: You are not?

Ms Granger: I simply do not have the knowledge myself.

Senator CAMERON: Okay. Tell me what UGL does for you. Is there anyone who can tell me? This is a big issue.

Ms Granger: I am happy to take the details and get you the answer. I just do not have it here.

Senator CAMERON: I will have to write to you the same as I did to Mr D'Ascenzo, I think, to get some answers.

Ms Granger: Certainly, or put it on notice. We would be happy to answer.

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Senator CAMERON: What checks and balances would you have within the ATO in relation to UGL? I suppose you do not know that either, seeing as you did not know they were there.

Answer:

Information on the contract the ATO has with United Group Limited Services (UGL) is provided in response to question AET 15.