

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates

1 June – 3 June 2010

**Question: BET 296**

**Topic: National Broadband Network**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Eggleston asked:**

Will any company be allowed to buy into the NBN fibre, or will it solely be run by the NBN Co? Isn't that a monopoly situation?

**Answer:**

The Implementation Study advised the Government not to sell any equity in the NBN until after privatisation, in order to preserve policy flexibility.

Further, NBN Co will only supply wholesale access services, which it will supply to retail service providers on an open access basis thereby providing equivalence of access. Retail service providers will then compete in the supply of services to end-users over the NBN.

Accordingly, there will not be a monopoly situation in retail markets, and NBN's wholesale only services will be subject to access regulation by the ACCC.