Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2008



Question: F22

Outcome 1, Output 1

Topic: Savings measures - 'Australia Connected —establishment of

BroadbandNOW'

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Senator Brandis asked:

Senator BRANDIS—Thank you. The next one: 'Australia Connected—establishment of BroadbandNOW'. That is another reversal of measure...What steps did Mr Tanner take before bringing this measure to the strategic budget review committee of cabinet to determine the effect or the impact of this measure on the relevant stakeholders?

Senator Sherry—Again, I will take that question on notice and refer it to Mr Tanner, the finance minister, for a response.

Answer:

The decisions taken by the Strategic Budget Committee of Cabinet were made following the provision of departmental advice, and had regard to the possible effects on stakeholders.