Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Topic: Solar Homes Communities Plan – Contestable Claims

Question reference number: CC75

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Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Question: (Senator Milne)

Senator MILNE—On notice I would like to know how many contestable claims there are in terms of whether an application was lost or missing, notwithstanding you would contest whether it is lost or missing?

Mr Thompson—Yes.

Answer:

As of 17 May 2010, the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE) had correspondence claiming that 1,362 applications had been submitted to the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts which that Department has no record of having received.

On 4 May 2010, DCCEE sent letters to these applicants requesting evidence to substantiate their claims. The applicants have until 4 June 2010 to provide the evidence. If approved, they will be granted pre-approval for six months.

The Department also emailed the 15 listed installation companies on 7 May 2010, advising them of the applicants' letters and requesting they assist their customers to provide the required evidence.