Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.1 Domestic Policy

Topic: COAG Development Assessment Reforms

Senator: Payne

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Question:

Senator PAYNE: The CRC says in that performance report for the seamless national economy that I referred to earlier that there are significant risks to that reform, so that would seem to me to be a red flag for the issues in this area. If you can tell me? if not now, then can you find out for me - what the status of that review into the development assessment reforms is; what the new timeframe for completion of those reforms is in light of the comments by the CRC and the timeline for the ongoing review ... If you could come back to me with that information that would be very helpful in terms of the timing and time frames that I asked about.

Answer:

In its response to the COAG Reform Council's report, COAG stated:

"COAG notes the Council's views on development assessment reform and asks the Housing Supply and Affordability Reform Working Party to consider the merits of the remaining reforms as they relate to enhancing housing supply and affordability and report back to COAG, through the Ministerial Council for Federal Financial Relations, by mid 2011, with recommendations on the best way of ensuring a cohesive national approach to further development assessment reform."

A report will be provided to the next meeting of COAG.