Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Supplementary Estimates Hearing – 21 October 2008

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Sonate Finance & Public Administration Committee

Outcome 3, Output 3.1.1

Topic: Mobile Personal Digital Assistants (PDA)

Question reference number: F38a

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 December 2008

Number of Pages: 1 Senator Polley asked:

Is it possible to compare the efficiency and reliability of Blackberry based PDA's to the PDA's that have been provided?

Answer:

No study has been undertaken with regard to this matter.

The Windows Mobile Personal Digital Assistants are a relatively new technology and considered to be 1st generation, whereas the BlackBerry is considered to be a mature technology (4th generation) with a broad range of clientele successfully using the system in business environments domestically and internationally. BlackBerry technology is specifically designed for ease of use and stability of the core functions of data transfer and telephony.