

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.1 Domestic Policy

Topic: Tasmanian Forests IGA - Discussions with state parliamentarians

Senator: Senator Abetz

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Question:

Senator ABETZ: I believe that, for example, FIAT - the Forest Industries Association of Tasmania - say that they have been betrayed in relation to the intergovernmental agreement. I believe that Timber Communities Australia and other organisations are similarly saying that the Intergovernmental Agreement does not represent that which they believed would be signed up. Were you involved in any discussions with state members of parliament in relation to the negotiations when Ms Gillard was in Hobart trying to finalise the issues?

Mr Shevlin: I believe that was in the lead up to the heads of agreement, and I was not.

Senator ABETZ: Was there somebody from the Department there?

Dr de Brouwer: Not that I am aware of. I will take that one on notice.

Answer: Officials from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet were not involved in any discussions with members of the Tasmanian State Parliament.