

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 9 FEBRUARY 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(34) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Barnett (L&C 76) asked:

Provide the dates the Border Protection Committee of Cabinet met to consider the *Oceanic Viking* situation, or provide advice to the Committee the reasons why the request would be refused. There needs to be public interest immunity and the detail of that needs to be set out.

Answer:

BPC considered the *Oceanic Viking* case on 11 occasions between October 2009 and the end of January 2010. By convention, the timing and details of discussions by Ministers in Cabinet committees are subject to Cabinet confidentiality.