

Select Committee on Electricity Supply, Demand and Prices in New South Wales

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Inquiry into electricity supply, demand and prices in New South Wales

Department/Agency: Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

Date: 10 October 2018

Question:

The Hon. ADAM SEARLE: Where are you up to in terms of talking to government about the implementation of the range of recommendations made in your report?

Mr MULLEN: I would say it is fairly preliminary. The report, as I said, came out in July and so we have held a number of discussions with relevant departments, both Commonwealth and State, mainly to talk about what our intention is with the recommendations and to explain in more detail why we landed in the place we did on various recommendations.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Can you give us specifics on what engagement you have had with the Federal Government and where that is likely to be heading?

Mr MULLEN: The Federal Government I would have to take on notice. The Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy we are in regular dialogue with, on a weekly basis, to talk about progress on implementing the range of recommendations.

The Hon. BEN FRANKLIN: Could you take on notice getting us whatever information you can about the engagement you have had with the Federal Government about the implementation of these recommendations?

Mr MULLEN: Yes.

Answer:

Since the ACCC's Retail Electricity Pricing Inquiry Final Report (the Report) was published, the ACCC Chair provided the following briefings specifically on the Report:

- National Party Room Meeting on 13 August 2018.
- Liberal Party Room Meeting on 14 August 2018.

The ACCC Chair also engaged with Federal Government Ministers on the following dates in relation to the Report and other issues:

- Minister for Energy, the Hon Angus Taylor MP on 31 August 2018, 18 September 2018 and 19 October 2018.
- Treasurer, the Hon Josh Frydenberg MP on 7 September 2018.

The ACCC chair also engages with officials from the Treasury on a range of ACCC issues including the Report.