

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2024-25

Finance Portfolio
28 – 31 May 2024

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1

Topic: Electoral - Donations made by wholly owned subsidiaries

Senator: Malcolm Roberts

Question reference number: F118

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 25 July 2024

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Abelshore Pty Ltd is listed as paying roughly \$48 million in other receipts on the CFMMEU returns for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023. Abelshore is a wholly owned subsidiary of Glencore. Are wholly owned subsidiaries required to disclose their ownership on donation returns?

Answer:

The Electoral Act deems related bodies corporate to be the same entity. In the event a donor disclosure return is required, the parent company of the group should lodge (under its name) a return consolidated across the entire group and list the names of all related bodies corporate. In the question asked, the amounts reported to CFMMEU (from Abelshore) were not reported as donations. They were reported as other receipts. Therefore a donor return by Glencore is not required under the Electoral Act.