



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by: Ms Elizabeth Lee MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Climate Action

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript [Pages 77-78]

In relation to: Big Canberra Battery – experienced individuals at Eku and companies tendered

Hearing Date: 24 July 2024

QTON lodgement date: 24 July 2024

Answer Due Date: 30 July 2024

MS LEE: Mr Osborne, you mentioned just in your earlier answer to the Chair that there were individuals that had experience. Are you able to outline who those individuals are?

Mr Osborne: I do know some of the individuals, but I do not know that it would be appropriate for me to call them out by name. I am happy to take that away and let you know.

MS LEE: You will take that on notice?

Mr Osborne: Yes.

MS LEE: Okay. In relation to the tender, if you can let me know if—I understand Mr Barr has already raised that obviously he was not through the procurement process, but are you able to update the committee on how many companies put their hand up, and take us through some of those details, or not?

Mr Osborne: Sorry, I wonder if you could clarify the question.

Mr Barr: Do you mean how many companies tendered?

MS LEE: Yes, tendered.

Mr Osborne: I do not think it would be in the government or in the territory's interest to disclose details around the procurement.

MS LEE: You do not think, or you are not going to disclose?

Mr Barr: We will take it on notice and see what information we can provide.

THE CHAIR: Sure. You will take it on notice. You are not trying to claim confidentiality.

Mr Barr: We will need to consider the matter, but I will take it on notice with a view to providing as much information as we can that would not prejudice either further procurements or indeed this current one.

Mr Barr: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

While Macquarie Group, now Eku Energy, put forward an experienced team of individuals as part of the Territory's procurement process, it would not be appropriate to publish the names of private individuals whose personal information was provided to the Territory for the limited purpose of assessing the tenders. Details of the Eku senior leadership team are available on the Eku website - <https://www.ekuenergy.com/who-we-are/our-people>.

Disclosing the number of companies who tendered as part of the Big Canberra Battery procurement has the potential to prejudice future procurements of a similar nature and is therefore not in the Territory's interest to disclose.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature: 

Date: **30.7.24**

By the Minister for Climate Action, Chief Minister