

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 205
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)
Topic: Portfolio wide – taxi costs
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 26 May 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

How much did each department/agency spend on taxis from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.

a) What are the reasons for taxi costs?

Answer:

Department of the Environment (the Department)

The Department spent \$99,345 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Australian Antarctic Division	25,654
Adaptation and Science Division	979
Biodiversity Conservation Division	18,012
Commonwealth Environmental Water Office	3,564
Corporate Strategies Division	6,459
Department wide Fixed/Non-discretionary	239
Emissions Reduction Fund Taskforce	685
Environment Quality Division	10,520
Environment Assessment and Compliance	5,822
Executive Division	1,488
International and Land Division	3,847
Office of Water Science	450
Parks Australia (0110)*	-4,879
Policy and Communications Division	5,292
Renewables, Projections & Governance	3,300
Supervising Scientist Division	1,948
Sustainability, Policy and Analysis Division	3,463
Water Efficiency Division	1,858
Water Reform Division	4,239
Wildlife, Heritage and Marine Division	6,407
Total	99,347

*Note: negative amount reflects the recovery of expenses from DNP via MoU

a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.

Director of National Parks

The Director spent \$8,764 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Parks Executive	504
Parks Operations and Strategic Partnerships Branch	990
Parks and Biodiversity Science Branch	639
Parks Business and Policy Branch	1,423
Commonwealth Marine Reserves	5,208
Total	8,764

- a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.

Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau)

The Bureau spent \$155,512 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Research and Systems	41,383
Weather Services	33,207
Climate and Water	47,455
Corporate	33,467
Total	155,512

- a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.

Clean Energy Regulator (the Regulator)

The Regulator spent \$11,454 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Office of the Chair and CEO	2,944
Office of the General Counsel	30
Operations Division	1,832
Renewables and Carbon Farming	5,093
Reporting and Carbon Market	1,555
Total	11,454

- a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.

Climate Change Authority (the Authority)

The Authority spent \$4,792 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Authority Members	900
Authority Staff	3,892
Total	4,792

a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (the Authority)

The Authority spent \$21,806 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Chairman's Office	8,351
Strategic Policy and Reef Stewardship	5,025
Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use	2,751
Great Barrier Reef Operations	5,679
Total	21,806

a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (the Authority)

The Authority spent \$16,932 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
River Management	3,108
Environmental Management	3,721
Policy and Planning	2,464
Corporate Services	7,639
Total	16,932

a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.

National Water Commission (the Commission)

The Commission spent \$4,128 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Executive and Corporate	1,337
Planning and Evaluation	1,141
Industry and Sustainability	1,650
Total	4,128

- a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (the Trust)

The Trust spent \$1,282 (GST inclusive) from 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Board	686
Executive	51
Corporate Services	201
Marketing	169
Property and Business Development	175
Total	1,282

- a) Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.