

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

Question No: 220
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)
Topic: Portfolio wide – government payments of accounts
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 26 May 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

From Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date, what has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?

- a) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?
- b) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?
- c) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?
- d) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days?
- e) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?
- f) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Additional Estimates in February, 2014?
- g) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

Department of the Environment (the Department)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
26.8 days	14,647	156	40	15	17
	98.5%	1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%

- f) \$74.91 interest has been paid since 1 February 2014.
- g) The general interest charge (GIC) daily rate on the day the payment was due is used to calculate the interest payable. For the interest paid since 1 February 2014, the GIC daily rate was 0.02627397%.

Director National Parks (the Director)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
25.7 days	2,829	17	6	1	4
	99.01%	0.6%	0.21%	0.04%	0.14%

f) No interest has been paid since 1 February 2014.

g) Not applicable.

Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
27 days	5,768	365	105	0	0
	92.5%	5.9%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%

f) No interest has been paid since 1 February 2014.

g) There was no interest paid, however, the Bureau uses the relevant daily general interest rate on the Australia Taxation Office Website in accordance with Finance Circular No 2012/02 – Procurement On-Time Payment Policy for Small Business.

Clean Energy Regulator (the Regulator)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
28 days	664	68	28	12	15
	84%	9%	4%	2%	2%

f) \$1,872 interest has been paid between 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014.

g) Interest is calculated using the General Interest Charge published by the Australian Taxation Office.

Climate Change Authority (the Authority)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
9.18 days	78	2	0	0	0
	97.5%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

f) No interest has been paid since 1 February 2014.

g) Not applicable.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
12.8 days	822	27	14	17	0
	93.4%	3.1%	1.6%	1.9%	0.0%

f) No interest has been paid since 1 February 2014.

g) Not applicable.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (the Authority)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
21 days	825	24	4	3	3
	96%	2.8%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%

f) No interest has been paid since 1 February 2014.

g) Not applicable.

National Water Commission (the Commission)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
9.2 days	185	3	0	0	0
	98%	2%	0%	0.0%	0.0%

f) No interest has been paid since 1 February 2014.

g) Not applicable.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (the Trust)

a) to e) For the period 1 February 2014 to 30 April 2014:

Average	a) Under 30	b) 30-60	c) 60-90	d) 90-120	e) Over 120
19 days	2293	24	1	0	0
	98.92%	1.04%	0.04%	0.0%	0.0%

f) No interest has been paid since 1 February 2014.

g) Not applicable.