

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

**Question No:** 289  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Corporate  
**Programme:** Corporate Strategies Division  
**Topic:** PORTFOLIO WIDE - NEW NON-GOING CONTRACTS  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

1. How many new employees have been engaged by your department on non-ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?
2. How many new non-ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2013 federal election?

**Answer:**

1.

<b>Number of new non-ongoing engagements since the 2013 federal election</b>	
<b>7 September 2013 to 30 September 2014</b>	
Department of the Environment	400
Bureau of Meteorology	76
Clean Energy Regulator	12
Climate Change Authority	2
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	23
Murray-Darling Basin Authority	8
National Water Commission	0
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	18

2.

Nil. Agency heads have the authority to engage and extend employees on non-ongoing contracts without seeking approval from the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC).

However, Agency Heads were required to notify the APSC about non-ongoing engagements over 12 months. This requirement has now been revoked.

During the reporting period, the Bureau of Meteorology notified the APSC of five non-ongoing engagements of over 12 months duration.