

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

Question No: 318
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)
Topic: PORTFOLIO WIDE - TAXI COSTS
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014, how much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.

- a. What are the reasons for taxi costs?
- b. How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?

Answer:

Department of the Environment:

The Department spent \$146,681 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business Group	Amount \$
Australian Antarctic Division	37,958
Biodiversity Conservation Division	9,976
Climate Change & Renewable Energy Division	13,031
Commonwealth Environmental Water Office Division	3,754
Corporate Strategies Division	11,095
Emissions Reduction Fund Taskforce	3,334
Environment Quality Division	13,748
Environment Assessment and Compliance	13,835
Executive Division	2,920
General Counsel Division	1,113
Parks Australia Division	2,018
Policy Analysis & Implementation Division	4,352
Science Division	9,175
Water Division	10,002
Wildlife, Heritage and Marine Division	10,370
Total	146,681

- a. Taxis are used as cost effective transport for official business purposes.
- b. \$247 from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2015

Director of National Parks:

The Director spent \$24,134 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business group	Amount \$
DNP Executive	4,050
Joint Management Branch	2,837
Parks Islands and Biodiversity Science Branch	2,670
Parks Business and Policy Branch	5,487
Commonwealth Marines Reserves	9,090
Total	24,134

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

Bureau of Meteorology:

The Bureau spent \$300,784 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business group	Amount \$
Environment & Research	76,498
Observation & Infrastructure	72,719
Hazard, Warnings & Forecasts	82,553
Information Systems & Services	21,065
Corporate Services	47,949
Total	300,784

- a. Due to the large number of operational sites nationally that the Bureau of Meteorology is responsible for, it's taxi expenditure is traditionally higher than policy areas.
- b. Nil

Clean Energy Regulator:

The Regulator spent \$37,398 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business group	Amount \$
Office of the Chair and CEO	10,546
General Counsel	783
Renewables and Carbon Farming	11,522
Reporting and Carbon Market	7,686
Operations	6,861
Total	37,398

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

Climate Change Authority:

The Authority spent \$3,034 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business group	Amount \$
Authority Members	145
Authority Staff	2,889
Total	3,034

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

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority:

The Authority total spent \$37,238 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business group	Amount \$
Chairman's Office	4,183
Policy and Stewardship	9,891
Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use	8,225
Great Barrier Reef Operations	14,939
Total	37,238

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

Murray-Darling Basin Authority:

The Authority total spent \$33,740 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business group	Amount \$
River Management	7,585
Environmental Management	4,915
Policy and Planning	6,884
Chief Executive Office	305
Corporate Services	14,051
Total	33,740

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

National Water Commission:

The Commission spent \$6,600 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business group	Amount \$
Executive and Corporate Services	4,068
Industry and Sustainability	1,453
Planning and Evaluation	1,079
Total	6,600

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

b. Nil

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust:

The Trust spent \$2,698 (GST inclusive) from 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014.

Business group	Amount \$
Board	1,196
Executive	321
Corporate Services	57
Marketing	872
Property and Business Development	252
Total	2,698

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

b. Nil