

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Agency - Asbestos Safety & Eradication Agency

Department of Employment Question No. EM1608_15

Senator Ruston asked on 23 October 2014 on proof Hansard page 105

Question

ASEA - Funding for National Taskforce – Asbestos Safety in Telstra Infrastructure

Senator RUSTON: So, basically it was just a decision that he had—
Mr Tighe: Certainly he was a technical consultant to the agency for that. Perhaps I could just raise with you though that the moneys that were associated with the operation of the task force were jointly funded by Telstra and NBN on a cost recovery basis. So, even though the agency remitted the money to them we received from both NBN and Telstra an amount of—I **would have to get you that figure**. But basically the cost for Dr Berger, the employment of the monitors, the servicing of the task force committee, was all picked up under that funding arrangement, which was agreed by the previous government

Answer

The total amount reimbursed to the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency in relation to the engagement and administration of the independent monitors on behalf of the National Taskforce was \$1,099,850.65 exclusive of GST.