

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 22 November 2013

Question: E13-101

OUTCOME: 8 - Indigenous Health

Topic: Dialysis - Ernabella Facility

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Siewert

Question:

In June 2013, the then Minister for Indigenous Health (Hon Warren Snowdon MP) wrote to the South Australian Government about an offer to provide \$1.8 million for the capital cost of establishing a permanent renal facility on the APY Lands in Ernabella/Pukatja. The following month, the then Shadow Spokesperson for Indigenous Health (Dr Andrew Laming MP) announced that - if elected - a Coalition government would come to an agreement with the South Australian and Northern Territory governments "within six months" of the date of the election on how any "remaining, uncommitted money" would be expended on "renal dialysis and primary renal health care in Central Australia."

- a) Can you provide this Committee with an update on any steps taken in recent months to conclude an agreement with the South Australian Government concerning the establishment of a renal facility in Ernabella on the APY Lands?
- b) When do you expect this agreement to be finalised?

Answer:

- a) Please refer to the answer provided by Ms Palmer, First Assistant Secretary, Indigenous and Rural Health Division, as recorded on pages 18 and 19 of the Hansard, of the Senate Estimates Supplementary Budget Hearing of the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee dated Friday 22 November 2013.
- b) As the South Australian Health Minister indicated that South Australia was not prepared to consider a permanent dialysis structure on the APY Lands at this time, an agreement is unlikely to be finalised.