

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	135
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates		
Hansard Page EC:	EC30		

Senator ABETZ: I would like to follow up on the small technology certificates. Just so I get the perspective right, they were announced in December 2008. Is that correct?

Mr Livingston: I think it was February, but I can check that. Their press release was put out by Senator Wong. I think it was announced in February—around there.

Answer:

In February 2010, the Australian Government announced changes to the Renewable Energy Target (RET) scheme. From January 2011, the existing scheme was separated into two parts – the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES) and the Large-scale Renewable Energy Target (LRET). Small-scale Technology Certificates (STCs) are a feature of the SRES while Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs) are a feature of the LRET.

An announcement by the Government in December 2008 related to the proposed implementation of the Solar Credits Mechanism which came into effect in June 2009.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	136
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates - fraud		
Hansard Page EC:	EC30		

Senator ABETZ: How much fraud was that?

Mr Livingston: He claimed for six systems that did not exist and he was prosecuted for that.

Senator ABETZ: The value of that?

Mr Livingston: They were hot-water systems. I will have to get back to you on that because it will depend on how big they were and that sort of thing.

Answer:

Mr Woof was charged with offences under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* resulting from the improper creation of 845 certificates relating to 21 solar hot water systems. Six of these systems were not installed and 15 systems were not properly installed.

The statement of facts presented to the Court at the time of Mr Woof's conviction indicates that he received \$27,435 as a result of the sale of certificates that were improperly created.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	137
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates - referrals to AFP and CDPP		
Hansard Page EC:	EC31		

Senator ABETZ: How many prosecutions have been referred to the AFP and the CDPP?

Mr Livingston: There have been some referred to them which did not meet their criteria for further action. I can get the number for you—it is not all that many.

Answer:

Since June 2009, six referrals have been made by the Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator / Clean Energy Regulator to the Australian Federal Police. These related to four matters. Of these:

- one referral was accepted by the Australian Federal Police for investigation;
- three referrals were not accepted for investigation; and
- search warrant assistance was provided for two investigations.

Two matters have been prosecuted by the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. One of these prosecutions resulted from the investigation undertaken by the Australian Federal Police.

One civil prosecution is currently underway. This action is being undertaken by the Australian Government Solicitor on behalf of the Clean Energy Regulator.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	138
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates – fraud total value		
Hansard Page EC:	EC32		

Senator ABETZ: Do we have any idea what the total value of the STC fraud covered by these referrals amounts to?

Mr Livingston: In the case of the Testoni matter, the number of 170 would be the upper limit but would be of the order of \$150,000 to \$160,000. In the Wolfe matter, that would be six solar hot water heaters and if they had 30 or 40 certificates, times end-year deeming, I can give you an estimate of that too, but again it will be an estimate because the market price is determined on the day and the money is between him and brokers not between him and the Commonwealth. We prosecute for the certificates, not for the dollars.

Answer:

The prosecution against Mr Testoni related to 22 solar photovoltaic systems that had not been installed for which 4,307 certificates were improperly created. The value of a certificate is determined by the market price at any particular time. However, if all the certificates were sold through the STC Clearing House at a capped price of \$40, the sale value would be \$172,280.

Mr Woof was charged with offences under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* resulting from the improper creation of 845 certificates relating to 21 solar hot water systems. Six of these systems were not installed and 15 systems were not properly installed.

The statement of facts presented to the Court at the time of conviction of Mr Woof indicates that he received \$27,435 as a result of the sale of certificates that were improperly created.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	139
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates – fraud – multiple cases		
Hansard Page EC:	EC32		

Senator ABETZ: I suggest that it is a bit more serious than that. How many of the 60 cases are multiple cases where somebody has asserted that they have installed, or installed more than they actually did?

Mr Livingston: I do not have a detailed analysis on the referrals we currently have in our database. We have gone to our compliance enforcement team.

Answer:

Of the matters referred to by Senator Abetz, only three investigations relate to situations where systems, solar photovoltaic or solar water heaters, were not installed at all.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome: 1 **Question No:** 140
Program: CER
Division/Agency: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: Small technology certificates – fraud
discovery
Hansard Page EC: EC33/Written

Senator ABETZ: Is it because of your auditing process or because of individuals in the community coming to you and alerting you to the fraud? Can you give us a breakdown of those figures?

Mr Livingston: We can

...

Senator ABETZ: Can I suggest that the majority of the matters now in the pipeline for prosecution are as a result of the members of the public, agents or other people involved coming to you and advising you of the fraud, as opposed to any internal mechanism and auditing by your department or by the regulator.

Mr Livingston: I agree that we get a number of people dobbing people in, which is good.

Senator ABETZ: Not just a number; the majority.

Mr Livingston: I am uncertain.

Senator ABETZ: All right—take that on notice, would you?

Mr Livingston: I can do that.

...

What is the internal investigation mechanism for identifying fraud?

Answer:

The table below shows the source of the initial allegation received by the Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator / Clean Energy Regulator's Renewable Energy Target Compliance Team:

Period	Internal	External	Total
2009/2010	20	20	40
2010/2011	16	141	157
2011/2012	31	139	170
01/07/12 to 15/10/12	5	25	30
Total	72	325	397

The role of the Clean Energy Regulator centres on the proper creation of certificates. There are a variety of strategies in place for identifying if certificates have not been properly created. These include:

- Certificates cannot be created by anyone that is not a Registered Person.

- All applications for certificates are subjected to a risk analysis of a number of factors.
- Desktop audits are undertaken based on an established risk framework.
- Aerial photography is used to verify that a system has been installed at a particular address.
- Spot checks with individual home owners are conducted.
- The legislated small-generation unit inspection regime.
- Significant effort is put into encouraging industry and public support in identifying and reporting instances of improper creation.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	141
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates – site audits		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

How many site audits were conducted in 2011-12? Please provide a breakdown of the outcome of those site audits.

Answer:

In the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012:

- 46 visits to installation sites were undertaken by the staff of the Clean Energy Regulator's Renewable Energy Target Compliance Team. A small number of these relating to the Testoni investigation identified the photovoltaic system had not been installed. In the majority of cases, the system was installed.
- Aerial photographs of 27,666 installations were viewed by staff of the Clean Energy Regulator's Small-scale Technology Certificate Validation Team as part of the checks carried out prior to validating the claim for certificates.
- Valid inspection reports were received during 2011-12 for 3,469 photovoltaic system installations inspected by Clean Energy Regulator contractors under the Clean Energy Regulator's Small Generation Unit Inspection Program. Any adverse findings related to safety are passed on to the relevant State / Territory electrical safety regulator.
- A further 1,700 (approx.) Small Generation Unit installations have been allocated for inspection under the Program and are scheduled for completion by the end of December 2012.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	142
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates - fraud - energy claimed to be generated		
Hansard Page EC:	EC34		

Senator ABETZ: That has already been done and dusted. How much energy has been claimed as having been generated when in fact it has not been generated by the 60 cases that are in the pipeline?

Mr Livingston: Again, that is a number we can calculate.

Senator ABETZ: Please take that on notice. How many companies or persons of interest have been identified in relation to detected or possible STC fraud? You have 60 cases and I assume those are 60 separate individuals or companies?

...

Senator ABETZ: I am asking about the 60 in the pipeline. Do we have a figure for them?

Mr Livingston: A figure for how many megawatt hours they reflect, not here but we can work on that.

Senator ABETZ: Can you take that on notice as well?

Mr Livingston: Absolutely.

Answer:

There are a number of factors that impact on the actual total generation of a specific photovoltaic generation unit. These include:

- the efficiency of the photovoltaic panels;
- weather conditions and any shading of the panels;
- the geographic location of the systems; and
- the direction the panels are facing and the tilt of the panels.

In the case of photovoltaic systems, certificates are issued on the basis of the amount of electricity that a system is estimated as being capable of producing over a pre-determined period, usually 15 years. One certificate relates to one Megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity generated in a 15 year period.

Of the matters referred to by Senator Abetz, only one investigation relates to systems that have never been installed and for which certificates have been created. This is the matter concerning Mr Testoni.

Based on the number of certificates that were issued for the systems not installed and for which certificates were created, the total amount of electricity deemed to have been generated in the period between the date of installation of the systems and 15 October 2012 is approximately 143.63 MWh.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	143
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small-scale technology certificates – fraud – cost of prosecutions		
Hansard Page EC:	EC35		

Senator ABETZ: How much do we expect it will cost the taxpayer to prosecute the other matters and the auditing and other work that is now being undertaken?

Ms Munro: I might refer that question to Mr Purvis-Smith who is our general counsel who may have information on the legal cost there.

Mr Purvis-Smith: I do not have precise figures. Normally we would not discuss the amount that we spent on a particular prosecution or a particular legal case, certainly not in an open environment. That may disclose the resources that the Commonwealth can bring to bear.

Senator ABETZ: That is why I have asked for the totality.

Mr Purvis-Smith: I do not have an exact figure for the two matters to date. I will take it on notice.

Answer:

1. The question on notice asks for information relating to prosecutions, auditing and other work that is being undertaken in relation to Small-scale Technology Certificates (STCs).
2. The Clean Energy Regulator has two options in relation to legal proceedings – criminal prosecutions and civil penalty proceedings. The following answers relate to both types of proceedings. To date, two criminal prosecutions have been undertaken. One of those matters is still before the court for finalisation of sentencing. One civil penalty proceeding has been brought in relation to STCs. That matter is currently on foot. Submissions have been made and judgement is expected in the first quarter of 2013.
3. Both criminal prosecutions have been conducted by the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP). One of those matters (involving a Mr Woof) was referred to the Australian Federal Police (AFP), who briefed the CDPP. The second matter (involving a Mr Testoni) was a direct brief by the Clean Energy Regulator to the CDPP. Neither the CDPP nor the AFP charge the Clean Energy Regulator for their services. No external legal services were used in relation to the prosecutions.

4. The CDPP has provided the following response in relation to the question:

CDPP's counsel costs for the two matters total \$4,848 noting that the Testoni matter is not yet finalised. For internal costs associated with these matters we advise that the CDPP does not maintain expenditure and human resource data disaggregated to this level.

Mr Testoni has indicated that he intends to appeal the severity of the sentence handed down.

5. The AFP has provided the following response in relation to the question:

The investigation concerning Mr Michael Woof took approximately 1,489 working hours for the AFP to conduct. The estimated cost of the investigation is approximately \$87,000.

The matter was originally referred to the AFP in December 2009 and the court proceedings were finalised in January 2012.

6. In relation to the civil penalty proceeding currently before the court, the Clean Energy Regulator has engaged the services of the Australian Government Solicitor. Because the matter is currently before the courts, the release of specific information regarding the costs of those services would not be appropriate. However, the costs have been included in the figure set out in the next paragraph.

The Clean Energy Regulator (and the Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator prior to 2 April 2012) has a team dedicated to compliance activities involving STCs and Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs). The team does not record the amount of time spent on STCs as opposed to LGCs. The total amount spent to date on internal direct staff costs for that team (covering both STC and LGC compliance work) and associated external expenses (including legal expenses) since 1 July 2009 is \$2,191,227. The Clean Energy Regulator's internal Legal Services team has also provided legal advice (no more than 10 hours) to compliance officers. However, the internal Legal Services team does not time-cost or charge for legal advice, nor does it estimate the commercial value of the legal advice it provides. Therefore, no figure has been included for internal Legal Services costs.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	144
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates – fraud – referrals to police		
Hansard Page EC:	EC		

Senator ABETZ: No? So, how many have been referred to police out of those 60?

Mr Livingston: I had better check the numbers.

Answer:

Of the number of matters referred to by Senator Abetz, there were two referrals to the Australian Federal Police. Both of these referrals were requests for assistance to execute search warrants.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	145
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Small technology certificates –fraud – number of cases		
Hansard Page EC:	EC35-36		

Mr Livingston: No, I did not say that.

Senator ABETZ: How many cases all up, Mr Livingston?

Mr Livingston: Have come to light—we have had a number of cases over the years referred to our team.

Senator ABETZ: How many?

Mr Livingston: I do not know, Senator, right now.

Senator ABETZ: Can you take that on notice for us.

Answer:

Between June 2009 and 15 October 2012, 397 referrals were received by the Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator / Clean Energy Regulator Renewable Energy Target Compliance Team.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	146
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Jobs and Competitiveness Program		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

How many entities have applied for assistance under the Jobs and Competitiveness Program? Have all applications been approved? If not, how many have been approved and how many rejected? Have all applicants received the level of assistance they initially applied for? If not, what variations to assistance provided have been made?

Answer:

The Jobs and Competitiveness Program (JCP) provides assistance to entities carrying on an eligible emissions-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) activity.

The JCP application period for 2012-13 closed on 31 October 2012. Furthermore, applicants could apply to the Clean Energy Regulator before 31 October 2012 to seek an extension to 31 December 2012.

As at 21 December 2012, a total of 116 applications have been lodged by 90 entities in relation to 164 facilities. Three more applications are anticipated before 31 December 2012 from companies that have been granted an extension. The applications and extension requests relate to 44 out of the 46 EITE activities which were eligible as at 31 October 2012.

Fifteen applications are currently being processed and a decision will be made within 60 days of receipt (unless further information is formally requested from applicants).

As at 21 December 2012, no applications have been refused and 101 applications have been approved, providing 97.4 million free carbon units to 78 entities (first allocation carbon units have been issued against approved applications, and the remaining units will be issued in the second allocation at the start of the 2013-14 financial year).

The level of assistance estimated by these entities in their applications was approximately the same – 97.4 million free carbon units. There is a difference of 7,000 carbon units in the tally of self-assessed allocations and the allocations made by the Clean Energy Regulator due to minor calculation errors found in some applications.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	149
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Coal seam gas - audits		
Hansard Page EC:	EC39		

Mr Carter: Chair, I have an answer to a question that Senator Milne asked earlier about whether any audits were undertaken in the 2011-12 audit program of CSG facilities. There were no CSG facilities audited in the 2011-12 audit program.

Senator MILNE: Could you take on notice why not?

Answer:

The selection of corporations for audit was based on providing a value for money audit program which addresses the key risk area of data integrity. This included focussing on significance, in terms of what a corporation's data might mean in the context of the entire National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting data set and providing maximum coverage across the reporting community.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome: 1 **Question No:** 150
Program: CER
Agency: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: Staffing - recruitment
Hansard Page EC: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many ongoing staff have been recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff?
3. This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

Answer:

1.

Classification	1 July 2012 – 8 November 2012
APS 3	0
APS 4	5
APS 5	2
APS 6	8
EL 1	1
EL 2	1
SES 1	2
Total	19

2.

Classification	1 July 2012 – 8 November 2012
APS 3	0
APS 4	3
APS 5	10
APS 6	5
EL 1	1
EL 2	1
SES 1	0
Total	20

3. All contracts entered into by the Clean Energy Regulator are published on AusTender at www.tenders.gov.au. Information on contract value, supplier, contract period and the type of work undertaken are provided.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome: 1 **Question No:** 151
Program: CER
Agency: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: Staffing - recruitment 2011-12
Hansard Page EC: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many ongoing staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
3. How many contract staff were recruited in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff? What is the average length of their employment period?

Answer:

1.

Classification	2 April 2012 – 30 June 2012
APS 3	1
APS 4	11
APS 5	7
APS 6	13
EL 1	12
EL 2	5
SES 1	2
Total	51

2.

Classification	2 April 2012 – 30 June 2012
APS 3	0
APS 4	3
APS 5	1
APS 6	6
EL 1	0
EL 2	3
SES 1	0
CEO	1
Members	4
Total	18

3. All contracts entered into by the Clean Energy Regulator are published on AusTender at www.tenders.gov.au. Information on contract value, supplier, contract period and the type of work undertaken are provided.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome: 1 **Question No:** 152
Program: CER
Agency: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: Staffing – separations 2011-12
Hansard Page EC: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many ongoing staff left the agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
2. How many non-ongoing staff left the agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?
3. How many contract staff left the agency in the year 2011-12? What classification were these staff?

Answer:

1.

Classification	2 April 2012 – 30 June 2012
APS 3	0
APS 4	1
APS 5	0
APS 6	0
EL 1	4
EL 2	0
SES 1	1
Total	6

2.

Classification	2 April 2012 – 30 June 2012
APS 3	0
APS 4	1
APS 5	1
APS 6	6
EL 1	3
EL 2	2
SES 1	0
Total	13

3. All contracts entered into by the Clean Energy Regulator are published on AusTender at www.tenders.gov.au. Information on contract value, supplier, contract period and the type of work undertaken are provided.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	153
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Staffing – Reduction plans		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.
2. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

Answer:

1. At present there are no plans for staff reduction.
2. N/A.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	154
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Efficiencies		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

Please detail how the agency will achieve savings over the forward estimates through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (with reference to the media release issued by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State on 25 September 2012:

http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html).

Answer:

The Clean Energy Regulator will manage its budget and make resource allocation decisions in accordance with its available funding. The Clean Energy Regulator continually looks for opportunities to reduce operating costs and will investigate those categories identified by the Department of Finance and Deregulation, along with others, as possible savings opportunities.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	155
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Efficiencies – air travel		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How will reductions in air travel spending be achieved? What is the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
2. What restrictions will be implemented for business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

1. The Clean Energy Regulator continually looks for opportunities to reduce travel by, for example, making greater use of video conferencing facilities. At this point the Clean Energy Regulator has not analysed its future year cost to this level of granularity and cannot provide estimates of travel costs in future years.
2. Given the infancy of the organisation, the Clean Energy Regulator currently relies on the policy developed by the Portfolio lead agency, the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency. The Clean Energy Regulator has commenced the development of its own policies, but the travel policy has not yet been finalised. The Clean Energy Regulator's restrictions on business class travel will be determined during the establishment of that policy.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	156
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Efficiencies – consultants and contractors		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How will the use of external consultants and contractors be reduced?
2. How will this impact on the agency?
3. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

The Clean Energy Regulator will manage its budget and make resource allocation decisions in accordance with its available funding. The Clean Energy Regulator continually looks for opportunities to reduce operating costs and will investigate those categories identified by the Department of Finance and Deregulation, along with others, as possible savings opportunities.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	157
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Efficiencies – recruitment advertising		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How will the agency manage moving recruitment advertising online?
2. Will all future recruitment advertisement be online only? If not, please explain why.
3. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

1. The Clean Energy Regulator will manage moving recruitment advertising online by liaising with Adcorp (the media placement agency) on an as needs basis, as per the requirements of the Non-Campaign Recruitment Advertising Policy, provided to the Clean Energy Regulator by the Department of Finance and Deregulation in July 2012.
2. All future recruitment advertisements will be online (unless an exemption is granted for hard to fill positions or target groups, or if the advertisement is being published in Indigenous, local, regional or rural media). This is in accordance with sections 3.4 and 4.4 of the Non-Campaign Recruitment Advertising Policy provided by the Department of Finance and Deregulation in July 2012.
3. The Clean Energy Regulator will manage its budget and make resource allocation decisions in accordance with its available funding. The Clean Energy Regulator continually looks for opportunities to reduce operating costs and will investigate those categories identified by the Department of Finance and Deregulation, along with others, as possible savings opportunities.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	158
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Efficiencies – printing costs		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How will printing costs be reduced? Please explain if and how the agency will reduce its printing costs by five per cent or, if it will not, why not?
2. How will it be determined what documents will no longer be printed?
3. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

1. The Clean Energy Regulator does not anticipate reducing printing costs. The Clean Energy Regulator will only print hard copies of a small number of essential publications.
2. Only essential publications are printed in hard copy. Prior to a print run being agreed, a reasonable case arguing for a print run is required. All other publications are available on the Clean Energy Regulator's website.
3. The Clean Energy Regulator will manage its budget and make resource allocation decisions in accordance with its available funding. The Clean Energy Regulator continually looks for opportunities to reduce operating costs and will investigate those categories identified by the Department of Finance and Deregulation, along with others, as possible savings opportunities.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	159
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Recruitment advertising		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much was spent on recruitment advertising in 2011-12? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?
2. Please list where recruitment advertising was listed online and in print media.
3. How much has been spent on recruitment advertising this financial year to date? How much of this was spent online and how much of this was spent on print advertising?
4. Please list where recruitment advertising was placed online and in print media.

Answer:

1. From 2 April 2012 to 30 June 2012 the total costs for recruitment advertising was \$16,042.63 (including GST). Of the total cost \$634.39 is for online advertising and the remainder \$15,408.24 for print media.
2. Online listings were placed with seek.com. Print media was placed with The Australian, the Canberra Times, and the Financial Review.
3. As of 30 September 2012 there has been no expenditure on recruitment advertising.
4. N/A.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome: 1 **Question No:** 160
Program: CER
Division/Agency: Clean Energy Regulator
Topic: Printing costs
Hansard Page EC: Written

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much was spent on printing 2011-12? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?
2. How many documents (please include the amount of copies) were printed in 2011-12? How many of these printed documents were also published online? Of the documents that were printed in 2011-12, where were they delivered and what was the cost?
3. How much has been spent on printing this financial year to date? Of this amount, how much was for printing documents?
4. How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?

Answer:

1. The Clean Energy Regulator spent \$25,650.35 (including GST) on printing from 2 April 2012 to 30 June 2012. Of this, \$10,996.70 (including GST) was for printing publications.
2. From 2 April 2012 to 30 June 2012, the Clean Energy Regulator printed the following publications.

Name of printed item	No. of copies printed	Available online?	Where was it delivered	Total print cost (including GST)
Guide to Carbon Price Liability under the Clean Energy Act 2011	900	Yes	Business Outreach Team 5 Farrell Place Canberra ACT 2601	\$3,855.50
Agent and installer advice factsheet	600	Yes	Renewable Energy Target Level 13 20 Allara Street Canberra ACT 2601	\$1,201.20
ORER Annual Report	400	Yes	Clean Energy Regulator 5 Farrell Place Canberra ACT 2601	\$5,940.00

3. As at 30 September 2012, the Clean Energy Regulator has spent \$7,505.58 (including GST) on printing this financial year. Of this, \$4,314.48 was for printing publications.
4. As at 30 September 2012, the Clean Energy Regulator has printed the following publications.

Name of printed item	No. of copies printed	Available online?	Where was it delivered	Total print cost (including GST)
Household/Agent Factsheets	7,500	Yes	Clean Energy Regulator 5 Farrell Place Canberra City ACT 2601	\$975.70
Obligation Transfer Number Forms, Liability Transfer Certificate Forms, and Joint Venture Forms	20,235 pages	Yes	The Westin Melbourne 205 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000	\$3,338.78

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	161
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Graduate recruitment		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How much has been spent on 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.
2. Has any travel been incurred for 2013 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.

Answer:

1. The Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency coordinated the 2013 Graduate Recruitment on behalf of the Clean Energy Regulator. The details of costs are included in the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency's response to Supplementary Budget Estimates Question on Notice No. 18.
2. As above.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	162
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Graduate training		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

How much is estimated to be spent on 2013 Graduate Training? Please provide details of what training is to be provided, why and the estimated cost for each.

Answer:

The Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency is coordinating the 2013 Graduate Program, which includes the Clean Energy Regulator. The indicative learning and development program and costs are provided in the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency's response to Supplementary Budget Estimates Question on Notice No. 19.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	163
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Government advertising - FYTD		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?
2. Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.
3. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
4. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
5. Did the advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Please provide the details for each advertising item.
6. Please provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.
7. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications programs is the agency undertaking and/or planning to undertake?

Answer:

The Clean Energy Regulator has not incurred any costs for advertising this financial year as of 30 September 2012.

1. The Clean Energy Regulator has not incurred any costs for advertising as at 30 September 2012
2. N/A.
3. No.

4. No.
5. N/A.
6. The Clean Energy Regulator has not conducted any communications programs.
7. Nil.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	164
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Government advertising – 2011-12		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What was the total cost of all advertising for 2011-12?
2. Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Please provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.
3. Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
4. Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Please provide details of each advertising item.
5. Did the advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Please provide the details for each advertising item.
6. Please provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services, that was undertaken in 2011-12.

Answer:

1. From 2 April 2012 to 30 June 2012 the Clean Energy Regulator spent \$16,042.63 (including GST) on advertising.
2. The Clean Energy Regulator has only performed non-campaign advertising and only for recruitment purposes.
3. No.
4. No.
5. Yes.
6. The Clean Energy Regulator has not conducted any communications programs outside of advertising for recruitment purposes.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	165
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Hospitality and entertainment		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What is the agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. What is the agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
3. What hospitality spend is the agency planning? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
4. What entertainment spend is the agency planning? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
5. Is the agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?

Answer:

1. Nil.
2. Nil.
3. Nil.
4. The Clean Energy Regulator is planning to contribute approximately \$4,200 to the Social Club to assist with the cost of hosting the 2012 Christmas Function. This contribution will be used to fund items such as venue and equipment hire along with a portion of the catering costs.
5. No.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	166
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Hospitality and entertainment – 2011-12		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. What is the agency's hospitality spend for 2011-12? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.
2. What is the agency's entertainment spend for 2011-12? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

Answer:

1. The Clean Energy Regulator spent \$16,836 (GST inclusive) on hospitality in 2011-12. This cost was in relation to the launch of the Clean Energy Regulator on 4 April 2012 at Lake Burley Griffin.
2. Nil.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	167
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Freedom of Information		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. What is the total cost to the agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12? How many FOI requests did the agency receive in 2011-12? How many requests were denied and how many were granted? Did the agency fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
3. What is the total cost to the agency to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
4. How many FOI requests has the agency received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the agency failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

1. The Clean Energy Regulator uses the resources of the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (the Department) under a shared services arrangement to process Freedom of Information (FOI) requests. The Department processes FOI requests in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act), FOI Regulations and the FOI Guidelines issued by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC). Departmental representatives have undertaken a range of professional development and training on the FOI Act including attending the Information Contact Officer Network meetings hosted by the OAIC and the FOI Practitioners' Forum hosted by the Australian Government Solicitor.

2. Data for the 2011-12 financial year (noting that the Clean Energy Regulator commenced operations on 2 April 2012) is as follows:

Number of requests received in 2011-12	4
Number of requests denied in 2011-12	1
Number of requests granted in 2011-12	0
Number of requests outstanding (as at 30 June 2012)	3
Did the agency fail to meet the processing times outlined in the Act in 2011-12?	No. Processing times were met for all applications.
Total cost to the agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12	\$5,127

3. As at 16 November 2012, the estimated total cost to the agency to process FOI requests so far this financial year is \$5,384.40

4. Data for the 2012-2013 financial year, as at 21 November 2012, is as follows:

Number of requests on hand as at 1 July 2012	3
Number of FOI requests received	2
Number of requests denied	1
Number of requests granted in full	0
Number of requests granted in part	3
Number of requests withdrawn	1
Did the agency fail to meet the processing times outlined in the Act?	No. Processing times were met for all applications.
Requests on hand (as at 21 November 2012)	0

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	168
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Consultancies		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.
2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and, if not, why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement, as above, and the name of the consultant if known.
3. How many consultancies were undertaken in 2011-12? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (i.e. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.

Answer:

1. All consultancy arrangements are published on AusTender at www.tenders.gov.au, including the contract value of consultancy arrangements.
2. At this stage, the Clean Energy Regulator has no planned future consultancies. The Clean Energy Regulator will assess business requirements and outcomes on an as needs basis to determine if consultancy services are required. The Clean Energy Regulator will undertake the appropriate procurement process as required in the Commonwealth Procurement Rules and the Clean Energy Regulator's Chief Executive's Instructions.
3. All consultancy arrangements are published on AusTender at www.tenders.gov.au, including the contract value of consultancy arrangements.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	169
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Media Monitoring – 2012-13		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc provided to the agency for this financial year to date?

- a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
- b. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?
- c. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?

Answer:

- a. Media monitoring services are provided by AAP. MediaNet is used to distribute media releases.
- b. The total estimated budget for media monitoring services in 2012-13 is \$180,000 (including GST) where applicable.
- c. As at 30 September 2012, the total cost of media monitoring services provided to the Clean Energy Regulator was \$45,000 (including GST) where applicable.

Media monitoring services are provided to the Clean Energy Regulator through a shared services arrangement with the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency. Payment is made to the Department for these services. The contract for media monitoring services is maintained by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	170
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Media Monitoring – 2011-12		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

What was the actual total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc provided to the department/agency for 2011-12?

- a. Which agency or agencies provided these services?
- b. What was the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2011-12?

Answer:

The actual cost of media monitoring services for the Agency for 2011-12 was \$45,378.79 (including GST) where applicable.

- a. Media monitoring services are provided by AAP. MediaNet is used to distribute media releases.
- b. The estimated budget for these services in 2011-12 was \$45,000 (including GST) where applicable.

Media monitoring services are provided to the Clean Energy Regulator through a shared services arrangement with the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency. Payment is made to the Department for these services.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	171
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Social media protocols		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

Have there been any changes since May 2012 Budget Estimates to agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of YouTube, online social media such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter and access to online discussion forums and blogs? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issued.

Answer:

There have been no changes since May 2012 Budget Estimates. The Clean Energy Regulator currently follows the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency protocol.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	172
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Social media monitoring and productivity		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Does the agency monitor usage of social media?
If yes, provide details of the usage (for example, details could include average hours per employee, hours when usage peaks)
If no, will the agency monitor usage in the future?
2. Does social media impact on employee productivity? Please provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours).

Answer:

1. Yes, the Clean Energy Regulator monitors usage of social media. For the period of 1 July 2012-1 November 2012, social media has comprised an average of four minutes total browse time each business day per user.
2. The impact on productivity is negligible, with average use accounting for 0.89 per cent of the standard working day.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	173
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Internet problems		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

Has the agency experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?

Answer:

1. The Clean Energy Regulator has experienced two internet interruptions since 2 April 2012.
2. Internet access is provided to the Clean Energy Regulator through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (the Department). The Department has advised that the Clean Energy Regulator has experienced two interruptions to internet services since 2 April 2012. The first interruption occurred on 9 July 2012 and affected services for approximately 42 minutes. The interruption was caused by a power surge at 5 Farrell Place.

The second interruption occurred on 10 November 2012 and affected internet services for approximately 90 minutes. The interruption was caused by maintenance activities performed by the external network provider to the Department.

Importantly, the Clean Energy Regulator is not aware of any adverse impact of these outages on its clients in meeting their legislative obligations.

3. The interruption caused by the external maintenance activities resulted in a 90 minute interruption of internet services to the Minister's Office.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	174
Program:	CER		
Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Staff amenities		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

What amenities are provided to staff? Please provide a list.

Answer:

The Clean Energy Regulator provides the following amenities for staff:

- Kitchens;
- Kitchen utilities (fridges, sandwich makers, microwave ovens, kettles, coffee machines, dishwashers);
- First aid rooms;
- Disabled toilets / showers;
- Bike cage;
- Lockers and change rooms;
- Male / female showers; and
- Nursing/prayer room.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates, 15 October 2012

Answers to Questions on Notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	175
Program:	CER		
Division/Agency:	Clean Energy Regulator		
Topic:	Coffee machines		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, please provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.
2. Why were coffee machines purchased?
3. Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?
4. Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in 2011-12 and how much this financial year to date? Please include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?

Answer:

1. The Clean Energy Regulator purchased eight Nespresso Gemini CS200 Pro coffee machines at a total cost of \$20,175.40 (GST Inclusive) on 26 June 2012. The Clean Energy Regulator Social Committee is responsible for ongoing costs, such as maintenance which is funded through the sale of the coffee pods to staff.
2. As advised by the Chief Executive Officer at the Estimates hearing of 15 October 2012, the coffee machines were purchased to provide a level of staff amenity and because it is beneficial for productivity.
3. The funding for the purchase and initial set up of the machines came from Departmental appropriation.
4. The Clean Energy Regulator Social Committee is responsible for funding the maintenance of the coffee machines. There has been no maintenance paid since the purchase of the machines on 26 June 2012.