

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013
Communications Portfolio
Special Broadcasting Service

Question No: 100

Program No. SBS

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Senator Ludwig asked:

- a. From 7 September 2013 to date, had the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
- b. If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.
- c. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department/agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
- d. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

- a. SBS is not subject to Government policy in this respect.
 - b. SBS's policy in respect of contractors/consultants is generally payment in 14 days. For other payments, SBS's normal payment terms are 30 days. Payments are made in accordance with agreed terms of trade (generally 30 days or less) and SBS policy.
 - c. Accounts are paid within the terms of trade. No interest is payable.
 - d. Not applicable.
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