

The Senate

Environment, Communications and
the Arts
Legislation Committee

Budget estimates 2010–11

June 2010

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Membership of the Committee

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Reference

1.1 On 11 May 2010 the Senate referred the following documents to standing committees for examination and report:

- Particulars of proposed expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2011; and
- Particulars of certain proposed expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2011.¹

1.2 The committee was required to report to the Senate by 22 June 2010.²

Hearings

1.3 The committee conducted public hearings involving the Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy portfolio on 24 and 25 May 2010; the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio on 25 and 26 May 2010 and the Climate Change and Energy Efficiency portfolio on 27 May 2010. The agenda is at Appendix 1.

1.4 Links to the transcripts of the public hearings, and to answers to questions on notice and additional information, are available on the Internet at:

www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/eca_ctte/estimates/bud_1011/index.htm

1.5 Answers to questions on notice and additional information provided to the committee arising from the hearings are tabled in the Senate and also compiled as volumes of Additional Information. The answers and other information are also posted on the committee's web pages.

Questions on notice – date for response

1.6 In accordance with Standing Order 26(9)(a), the committee has fixed Friday, 30 July 2010 as the date for the return of written answers or additional information in response to questions placed on notice.

1 *Journals of the Senate*, No. 120, 11 May 2010, p. 3444.

2 *Journals of the Senate*, No. 94, 27 October 2009, p. 2633.

Procedural and other matters

Changes to portfolios

1.7 Under changes to the machinery of government of March 2010 a new portfolio, Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, was established. The revised Administrative Arrangements Order transferred responsibility for a range of matters which were previously dealt with in the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts Portfolio to the new Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio.

1.8 These matters included renewable energy programs, energy efficiency, greenhouse gas abatement programs and community and household climate action programs.

1.9 On 12 May 2010, the Senate allocated responsibility for the Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee.³

Late return of responses to questions on notice

1.10 In previous reports the committee has expressed its concern about past failures to provide responses in a timely manner and its expectation that responses to questions on notice should be provided to it by the due date.

1.11 The committee notes that answers were still being provided to the secretariat during this round of hearings.⁴

1.12 In setting 30 July 2010 as the deadline for answers to questions on notice from the current round of hearings, the committee believes that it is allowing ample opportunity for answers to be carefully considered and submitted in a timely manner.

Comprehensiveness of Budget Estimates process

1.13 As the then Chair noted in previous estimates, the committee expects that all Agencies will be available for the main round of Budget Estimates, unless notified otherwise.⁵ This is unlike Supplementary Estimates where senators nominate agencies they wish to examine.

3 *Journals of the Senate*, No. 121, 12 May 2010, p. 3462.

4 There were 29 BCDE answer provided on 24 May 2010 and 19 EWHA answers provided on 24 and 25 May 2010. There are two EWHA answers outstanding from the 2010 Additional Estimates hearings of February 2010.

5 *Committee Hansard*, 25 May 2005, p. 77.

1.14 The committee believes that, by including all relevant portfolio bodies in the hearing program, senators are made aware of the opportunity to question them.⁶

1.15 It is left to the discretion of officials to determine whether company representatives need to attend the hearings in person or whether departmental officers are sufficiently knowledgeable to respond to the committee's inquiries on their behalf.

1.16 For this Budget Estimates round the committee called all government agencies and companies with the exception of:

- Australia Business Arts Foundation
- Bundanon Trust
- Sydney Harbour Federation Trust
- Outcome 3 of DEWHA, including the Antarctic Division

1.17 During the hearings two agencies, the National Water Commission and the Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator, were released without questioning.

Attendance of agency chief executive officers

1.18 There were several instances where agency CEOs did not appear at the hearings. For example, despite expressly committing in February 2010 to appear at all future Estimates hearings, Mr Fahour, Australia Post's relatively new CEO, wrote to the committee in April 2010 indicating that he would not attend the Budget Estimates hearings. Mr Fahour's absence was noted by officials in an opening statement.⁷

1.19 Similarly, just prior to the hearings the committee received separate correspondence from the CEOs of the National Gallery of Australia and Screen Australia indicating that they would not be available.

1.20 The committee is of the view that CEOs of these and other significant national government organisations should make themselves available for future Estimates hearings.

Acknowledgements

1.21 The committee thanks Senator Conroy and Senator Wong, officers from portfolio departments and agencies, and Broadcasting, Hansard and the Secretariat for their assistance during this Budget Estimates process.

6 *Budget Estimates 2004–05*, Report of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee, June 2004, p. 13.

7 *Proof Committee Hansard*, 24 May 2010, p. 44.

Chapter 2

Examination of portfolios

Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy portfolio

2.1 The committee welcomed Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy, Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy.

2.2 During its examination, the committee raised a variety of issues which are noted below. The page numbers beside each issue refer to the proof transcript for Monday, 24 May 2010.

2.3 Questioning commenced of portfolio agencies:

Special Broadcasting Service Corporation

- advertising during SBS programs (pp 5–6)
- review of the subtitling activities (pp 6–7)
- upgrade of some analog terrestrial self-help transmitters to digital and available services resulting from the digital switchover (pp 7–10, 15)
- 3D broadcast of certain World Cup matches (p. 11)
- progress on the SBS strategic review (p. 12)
- online streaming service and audience share (pp 12–13).

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

- proposal for *Q&A* to travel to different state and territory capitals and regional centres (p. 14)
- number of digital transmitters to be funded (pp 15, 20–21)
- proposed 24 hour TV news channel: staffing and funding arrangements (pp 15–19, 30)
- strategic review of ABC Radio (pp 19–20)
- progress report on ABC Open program (pp 21–22)
- progress report on ABC3 (p. 22)
- *Project Bluebird* program (pp 24–25)
- funding of ABC rural radio network (pp 25–26, 28–31)
- provision of local news services on HD channels (pp 26–27)
- capital funding for new digital equipment (pp 31–32)
- review of the Asia Pacific Television Service (p. 33)
- technical trial of audio description for hearing and vision impaired (pp 33–34)

- broadcasting of the documentary *Hope in a Slingshot* (p. 34)
- ABC employees in receipt of a buyout for overtime and penalties (p. 38)
- access to ABC on iPads (p. 39)
- former ABC journalists' access to superannuation (p. 40)
- role of the Manager of Emergency Services and Community Development (pp 41–42)
- use of 'hashtags' on Twitter (pp 42–43).

Australia Post

- attendance of the Managing Director, Mr Fahour, at Estimates hearings (p. 44)
- financial loss resulting from industrial action (p. 45)
- evaluation results of 'CubeCalc' (p. 45)
- lost letters and parcels (pp 45–46)
- Australia Post sponsorships (p. 47)
- costs of AQIS quarantine checks (pp 48–49)
- membership of the stakeholder council, the former Postal Services Consultative Council (pp 49–50)
- status of price notification lodged with ACCC for increase in postage for standard letters (pp 51–53)
- facility nominated doctors (p. 54)
- use of Mercedes vans (pp 54–55)
- possible introduction of mail hubs (pp 55–56)
- clearance of mail boxes over long weekends (pp 56–57)
- new business opportunity to provide secured digital communications with the related establishment of four strategic business units and appointment of staff (pp 57–58).

Australian Communications and Media Authority

- results of the signal coverage checks and surveys for regional Australia as part of the digital switchover (pp 58–60, 74–75)
- compliance of free-to-air television with local content rules (pp 60–62)
- impact of technical advances on regulatory processes (pp 62–63)
- the 'Reconnecting the Customer' initiative (pp 63–64)
- ACMA's role in internet filtering (pp 66–68)
- Cybernet bullying (pp 68–69)
- prohibited content list (pp 69–72)

- allocation of spectrum in the rollout of digital radio to rural and regional Australia (pp 73–74).

2.4 At the conclusion of questioning of the agencies, general questions were asked of the department, including such issues as:

- review of anti-siphoning rules (pp 76–80)
- the TV licence fee rebate (pp 80–86, 109–111).

2.5 The committee then called and examined officers in relation to:

Program 1.3: Broadcasting and Digital Television

- review of the technologies suitable for digital radio (p. 86)
- Digital Tracker Survey to test people's awareness of the forthcoming digital switchover (pp 87, 92)
- broadcast of all commercial stations terrestrially or via satellite (pp 87–93)
- funding for the digital switchover program (pp 93, 99–101, 105–108)
- timetable for the switchover (pp 93–96)
- provision of the VAST satellite service (pp 97–99)
- the digital switchover Household Assistance Scheme (pp 102–104, 111).

Program 1.2: Telecommunications, Online and Postal Services

- unauthorised collection of wi-fi data by Google (pp 111–114, 118–119, 126–127)
- consultation with ISPs about implementing the internet filter (pp 114–116)
- high-traffic sites (pp 116–119)
- refused classification blacklist (pp 121–123)
- impact on the mandatory filter on law enforcement agencies as a result of increased encrypted traffic and global roaming arrangements (pp 123–124)
- impact on complaint numbers since the introduction of the Mobile Premium Services Code (pp 125–126).

2.6 On Tuesday, 25 May the committee continued its examination of the Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy portfolio, commencing with the NBN Co Limited. The page numbers beside each issue below refer to the proof transcript for Tuesday, 25 May 2010.

2.7 Prior to the commencement of questioning, Mr Quigley, CEO of the NBN Co Limited, made an opening statement about the current status of NBN and its activities. Issues raised during questioning included:

- late provision of answers to questions on notice (pp 10–11)

- number of equity injections provided to the NBN Co to date (pp 11–12, 19–24)
- breakdown of the estimated \$50 million spent to date (pp 12–14)
- nature of exit clauses in NBN Co contracts (pp 15–19)
- NBN Co's business case (pp 26–29, 39–40)
- rollout of the NBN network in greenfields sites (pp 29–36, 38)
- skills shortages and anticipated local training (pp 36–37)
- progress of the Tasmanian rollout (pp 40–44, 46, 51–54)
- work safety incidents in Tasmania (pp 47–49)
- provision of satellite capacity (pp 55–56)
- aerial or underground cabling (pp 55–59).

2.8 Questioning followed of officers in relation to **Program 1.1: Broadband and Communications Infrastructure**. Issues included:

- \$4.7 billion investment into the NBN network (pp 60–62)
- cost of an information campaign about the NBN network (pp 64–67)
- satellite solutions for broadband (pp 68–72)
- late provision of answers to questions on notice (pp 72–74, 117)
- complaints about the use of aerial cabling (pp 74–78)
- release of the implementation study (pp 80–82)
- costs of service in Tasmania (pp 83–90)
- take-up rate of the NBN network (pp 93–97)
- future use of the copper network (pp 97–100)
- download speeds for rural and regional customers who are outside the fibre to the home footprint (pp 102–105)
- return on government equity investment in NBN network (pp 111–116).

Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio

2.9 On Tuesday, 25 May the committee commenced its examination of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio and welcomed Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy, Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, representing the Minister for the Environment Protection, Heritage and the Arts, the Hon Peter Garrett MP, and portfolio officers.

2.10 The chair called officers in relation to *Outcome 5: Participation in, and access to Australia's culture and heritage through developing and supporting cultural expression, and protecting and conserving Australia's heritage*. The page numbers listed below refer to the proof transcript for 25 May 2010.

2.11 Before questioning commenced of portfolio agencies, the Department tabled replacement tables of cash flows for the National Maritime Museum and the Australian Film, Television and Radio School, Issues raised included:

Australian National Maritime Museum

- impact of the ongoing efficiency dividend on operations (p. 122)
- provision of advice about preservation of the *City of Adelaide* clipper ship (pp 122–123)
- performance against key performance indicators (p. 123)

Australia Council

- performance against key performance indicators (p. 123)
- vacancies on the Council and its boards (pp 124–125)
- financial performance of the orchestras (pp 125–126, 127–128)
- impact of the efficiency dividend on operations (pp 126–127)
- impact of the global financial crisis on philanthropic donations (p. 127)
- performance against key performance indicators (p. 128)

Screen Australia

- absence of Screen Australia's CEO, Dr Harley, who was attending the Cannes Film Festival (pp 128–129)
- update of box office results for Screen Australia productions (p. 129)
- performance against key performance indicators (p. 129)
- impact of the efficiency dividend on operations (p. 130)
- current state of the postproduction sector (pp 131–32)

Australian Film, Television and Radio School

- performance against key performance indicators (p. 133)
- impact of the efficiency dividend on operations (p. 134)
- role of the school in student transition from education to paid work (p. 135)

National Film and Sound Archive

- performance against key performance indicators (p. 135)
- collection management (p. 136)
- visitor numbers during the *Masterpieces from Paris* exhibition (p. 136)
- use of Twitter and Facebook by the organisation (p. 137)

National Gallery of Australia

- statistics from the *Masterpieces from Paris* exhibition (pp 137–139)

- performance against key performance indicators (p. 139)
- the Gallery's membership numbers (p. 139)
- update on the refurbishment and extensions at the Gallery (p. 140)
- use of Twitter and Facebook by the organisation (pp 140–141)

National Library of Australia

- performance against key performance indicators (p. 141)
- impact of the efficiency dividend on operations (p. 141)
- progress of the digitisation program (p. 141)

National Museum of Australia

- Council vacancies (p. 142)
- proposed expansion of office accommodation (p. 142)
- performance against key performance indicators (p. 142)
- progress of *The Forgotten Australians* exhibition (pp 142–143)

Program 5.1: Arts and Cultural Development

- resale royalty scheme (pp 143–145, 148, 151–152)
- update on the Richmond Bridge Conservation Management Plan (pp 145–147)
- proposed buffer zones around Port Arthur (pp 147–148)

Program 5.2: Conservation and Protection of Australia's Heritage

- possible World Heritage listing for parts of the Lake Eyre Basin and Cape York Peninsula (pp 149–150)
- update on the Kokoda Track safety package (p. 150).

2.12 On Wednesday, 26 May the committee continued its examination of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts Portfolio, calling officers in relation to *Outcome 1: The conservation and protection of Australia's terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems through supporting research, developing information, supporting natural resource management, regulating matters of national environmental significance and managing Commonwealth protected areas.*

2.13 The chair welcomed Senator the Hon Penny Wong, Minister for Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Water.

2.14 The Minister made a statement concerning the transfer of responsibility for a range of matters from the Environment, Water, Heritage and Arts (EWHA) portfolio to the newly established Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (CCEE) portfolio. These matters include renewable energy programs, energy efficiency, greenhouse gas abatement programs and community and household climate action.

- 2.15 The page numbers listed below refer to the proof transcript for 26 May 2010.
- 2.16 General questions were asked of DEWHA and included issues such as:
- extent to which the department can answer questions related to those matters which have been transferred to the CCEE portfolio (pp 5–7)
 - appointment of departmental secretaries (pp 9, 15)
 - matters concerned with the home insulation package program (pp 10–14, 22–28, 29–33)
 - issues surrounding the Gunns pulp mill announcement (pp 16–19, 28–29)
 - impact of the machinery of government changes on DEWHA (pp 20–22).
- 2.17 Questioning of portfolio agencies commenced:

Bureau of Meteorology

- use of raw data temperatures from the weather station in Darwin (pp 35–36)
- funding for the National Plan for Environmental Information Program (pp 36–40)
- Bureau's role in improving data and information on Australia's water resources (pp 43–45)

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

- update on the Reef Guardian program (pp 46–47)
- impact of green zones on fish numbers and recreational fishing (p. 47)
- impact of the coal tanker, *Shen Neng 1* running aground on the Reef (pp 48–51, 52–53)
- effect of the efficiency dividend on operations (p. 51)
- environmental manage charge collections (pp 51–52)

Office of the Supervising Scientist

- possible expansion of the role of the Office of the Supervising Scientist (pp 53–54)
- restoration and rehabilitation of former uranium mines in the Alligator Rivers region and the Rum Jungle site (pp 54–55, 61)
- update of the issue of the plume of process water leaking out from under the main tailings dam at Ranger (pp 55–60)
- salinity levels in the Magela Creek (pp 60–61, 62)

Director of National Parks

- funding for the Caring for our Country program (pp 62–63)
- acquisitions for the National Reserve System (pp 63–64)

- fox baiting program in Booderee National Park (p. 64)
- pest control program on Macquarie Island (p. 64)
- pipistrelle bat monitoring (pp 64–65)
- aerial baiting of crazy ants on Christmas Island (pp 65–66).

2.18 Officers were called and examined in relation to:

Program 1.1: Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment

- funding for Caring for our Country (pp 66–68, 71–72, 77–78)
- role of Indigenous people in the Caring for our Country program (pp 68–69)
- update on the Indigenous Protected Areas program (pp 69–70)
- Mount Lyell remediation program (pp 72–76)
- update on the Environmental Stewardship Program (p. 80).

Program 1.2: Environmental Regulation, Information and Research

- circumstances surround allegations about *Tasair* aiding and abetting whaling in the Southern Ocean (pp 80–83)
- compensation for structural adjustment to fishers and other business affected by the expansion of marine protected areas (pp 83–84)
- monitoring of the Coral Sea conservation zone (pp 85–87)
- DEWHA's involvement in the Australian Maritime Safety Authority's response arising from the Montara oil spill (pp 90–91, 100)
- importation of bumblebees (pp 94–95)
- funding of the Commonwealth Environment Research Facility and its replacement program (pp 95–100)
- possible legal action against Japan's whaling activities (p. 101).

2.19 At the conclusion of Program 1.2, officers were called in relation to *Outcome 2: Improved capacity of Australian communities and industry to protect the environment by promoting waste reduction and regulating hazardous substances, wastes, pollutants, ozone depleting substances and synthetic greenhouse gases.*

Program 2.1: Reduction and management of wastes, hazardous substances, pollutants, ozone depleting substances and synthetic greenhouse gases

- progress of the national container deposit scheme (pp 104–106).

2.20 At the conclusion of Program 2.1, the committee called officers in relation to *Outcome 4: Adaptation to climate change, wise water use, secure water supplies and improved health of rivers, waterways and freshwater ecosystems by supporting research, and reforming the management and use of water resources:*

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

- release of the draft Basin Plan (pp 108–110)
- identification of key environmental assets and the key ecosystem functions of the basin (pp 112–115)
- socioeconomic analysis of potential impact of the plan (pp 115–118)
- water flows after the March 2010 rainfall event (pp 118–119)
- consultations about the draft plan (pp 123–124, 127–128)
- water flows into Menindee Lakes (pp 129–131)

Program 4.1: Water Reform

- uptake of recommendations in the Productivity Commission's report: *Market mechanisms for recovering water in the Murray-Darling Basin* (pp 133–134)
- infrastructure works at Menindee Lakes (pp 134–135).

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio

2.21 On Thursday, 27 May the committee commenced its examination of the Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio, calling officers in relation to *Outcome 1: Reduction of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions including by promoting energy efficiency, adaptation to the impacts of climate change, and negotiation of an effective global solution, through the development and implementation of a national response to climate change; and bilateral, regional and multilateral engagement internationally.*

2.22 The secretary of the department, Dr Parkinson, made an opening statement detailing changes to the department following the machinery of government changes which took effect on 8 March 2010.

2.23 Officers were called and examined in relation to **Program 1.1: Reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions**. Issues included:

- expanded Renewable Energy Target modelling (pp 6–25)
- deferral of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) (pp 25–35, 43, 46–47)
- impacts of the deferral of the CPRS on the department (pp 35–42, 46)
- impact of the deferral of the CPRS on carbon sinks and carbon forests (p. 47)
- Australian Carbon Trust and the Climate Change Foundation Campaign (pp 47–48)
- establishment of the Renewable Energy Future Fund (p. 48).

2.24 General questioning of the department commenced:

- delays in answers questions on notice from the previous estimate round (pp 49–52)
- organisational structure of the new department (pp 52–54)
- department budget and staffing levels (pp 57–61, 71–72)
- US National Academy of Science reports examining climate change science (pp 61–62)
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports (pp 62–65)
- Home Insulation Safety Program inspections (pp 70–71)
- new coal-fired power stations in Australia (pp 74–76)
- purpose of the National Carbon Accounting System (pp 78–80).

2.25 Questioning followed in relation to:

Program 1.3: Adapting to climate change

- funding for the national Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (p. 82)
- role of the Australian Climate Change Science Program (pp 82–83)
- budget funding for the Adapting to Climate Change program (p. 83)

Program 1.4: Helping to shape a global climate change solution

- costs related to the Australian delegation to Copenhagen (p. 84)
- follow-up discussions and activities since the Copenhagen Accord (pp 84–87)
- substance of the US climate bill and the status of Japan's climate bill (pp 87–88)
- overseas development assistance (pp 89–93)

Program 1.2: Improving Australia's energy efficiency

- Home Insulation Program, including funding, use of consultants, investigations by the AFP, double payments, recouping moneys, possible instances of fraud, Insulation Industry Assistance Package, training (pp 94–111, 113, 119–120)
- update to the Building Code of Australia (pp 111–113)
- Foil Inspection Safety Program (pp 114–119, 120–121)
- Green Loans program and the Green Reward cards (pp 122–123)
- Prime Minister's Task Group on Energy Efficiency (pp 123–124).

Appendix 1

The Senate BUSINESS OF COMMITTEES

This document is issued as a guide to Senators
Business listed is subject to change

It should be noted that times allocated for the consideration of outcomes, items and agencies within portfolios are indicative only.

Senators, staff and departments should liaise with secretariats on the progress of portfolios during the estimates process.

SENATE ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Public Hearings: **Budget Estimates 2010–2011**
Monday, 24 to Thursday, 27 May 2010
and if required, Friday, 28 May 2010

Committee Room 2S3
Parliament House
Canberra ACT

To be televised on Channel 11 and broadcast on Radio 91.1
<http://webcast.aph.gov.au>

AGENDA

MONDAY, 24 May 2010	
	Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
9.00 am	Special Broadcasting Service Outcome1: Provide multilingual and multicultural services that inform, educate and entertain all Australians and in so doing reflect Australia's multicultural society <i>Program 1.1: Television</i> <i>Program 1.2: Radio</i> <i>Program 1.3: Analogue Transmission and Distribution</i> <i>Program 1.4: Digital Television Transmission and Distribution</i> <i>Program 1.5: Digital Radio Transmission and Distribution</i>
	Australian Broadcasting Corporation Outcome 1: Informed, educated and entertained audiences-throughout Australia and overseas-through innovative and comprehensive media and related services <i>Program 1.1: Radio</i>

	<p><i>Program 1.2: ABC Television</i> <i>Program 1.3: Online</i></p> <p>Outcome 2: Audience access to ABC satellite and analog terrestrial radio and television transmission services is, at a minimum, maintained year-on-year through the management of Transmission Service Agreements</p> <p><i>Program 2.1: ABC Analog Transmission</i></p> <p>Program 3: Audience access to ABC digital television services is provided, in accordance with Government approved implementation policy, through the roll-out and maintenance of the associated distribution and transmission infrastructure</p> <p><i>Program 3.1: Digital Television Services</i></p> <p>Outcome 4: Audience access to ABC digital radio services is provided, in accordance with Government approved implementation policy, through the rollout and maintenance of the associated distribution and transmission infrastructure</p> <p><i>Program 4.1: Access to Digital Radio Services</i></p>
	Australia Post
	<p>Australian Communications and Media Authority</p> <p>Outcome 1: A communications and media environment that balances the needs of the industry and the Australian community through regulation, education and advice</p> <p><i>Program 1.1: Communications regulation, planning and licensing</i> <i>Program 1.2: Consumer safeguards, education and information</i></p>
	Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE)
	General questions of the Department
	Outcome 1—Develop a vibrant, sustainable and internationally competitive broadband, broadcasting and communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, which promotes the digital economy for all Australians
	<i>Program 1.3: Broadcasting and Digital Television</i>
	<i>Program 1.2: Telecommunications, Online and Postal Services</i>
11.00 pm	Adjournment
TUESDAY, 25 MAY 2010	
	Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
	Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE)
	Outcome 1—Develop a vibrant, sustainable and internationally competitive broadband, broadcasting and communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, which promotes the digital economy for all Australians
9.00 am	NBN Co
	<i>Program 1.1: Broadband and Communications Infrastructure</i>

	<p>Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts Portfolio</p>
4.00 pm	<p>Australian National Maritime Museum</p> <p>Outcome 1: Increased knowledge, appreciation and enjoyment of Australia's maritime heritage by managing the National Maritime Collection and staging programs, exhibitions and events</p> <p><i>Program 1.1: Management of maritime heritage</i></p>
	<p>Australia Council</p> <p>Outcome 1: The creation, presentation and appreciation of distinctive cultural works by providing assistance to Australian artists and making their works accessible to the public</p> <p><i>Program 1: Investment in the arts</i></p>
	<p>Screen Australia</p> <p>Outcome 1: Enhancement to Australia's screen culture, nationally and internationally, by supporting the development of the Australian screen production industry and by developing, producing, promoting and providing access to diverse Australian programs</p> <p><i>Program 1.1: Foster the Australian screen industry through strengthening the skills of screen content practitioners and developing, investing in producing Australian screen content, and promoting it to audiences</i></p>
	<p>Australian Film, Television and Radio School</p> <p>Outcome 1: A more sustainable screen and broadcasting industry through advanced industry-focused education and training for talented students, professionals and organisations</p> <p><i>Program 1: Delivery of advanced education to meet the diverse creative needs of students and the skill requirements of industry by means of award courses and the Open Program courses</i></p>
	<p>National Film and Sound Archive</p> <p>Outcome 1: Increased understanding and appreciation of Australia's audiovisual history by developing, preserving, maintaining and promoting the national audiovisual collection and providing access to audiovisual material of historic and cultural significance</p> <p><i>Program 1.1: Develop, preserve and present Australia's national collection and other related collections and make them available to all Australians</i></p>
	<p>National Gallery of Australia</p> <p>Outcome 1: Increased understanding, knowledge and enjoyment of the visual arts by providing access to, and information about, works of art locally, nationally and internationally</p> <p><i>Program 1.1: Collection development, management, access and promotion</i></p>
	<p>National Library of Australia</p> <p>Outcome 1: Enhanced learning, knowledge creation, enjoyment and understanding of Australian life and society by providing access to a national collection of library material</p> <p><i>Program 1.1: The National Library of Australia</i></p>
	<p>National Museum of Australia</p> <p>Outcome 1: Increased awareness and understanding of Australia's history and culture by managing the National Museum's collections and providing access through public programs and exhibitions</p> <p><i>Program 1.1: Collection Management, Research, Exhibitions and Programs</i></p>

	Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA)
	Outcome 5: Participation in, and access to, Australia's culture and heritage through developing and supporting cultural expression, and protecting and conserving Australia's heritage
	<i>Program 5.1: Arts and Cultural Development, including National Portrait Gallery</i>
	<i>Program 5.2: Conservation and Protection of Australia's Heritage</i>
11.00 pm	Adjournment
WEDNESDAY, 26 MAY 2010	
	Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts Portfolio
	Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA)
9.00 am	General questions of the Department
	Outcome 1: The conservation and protection of Australia's terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems through supporting research, developing information, supporting natural resource management, regulating matters of national environmental significance and managing Commonwealth protected areas
	Office of Supervising Scientist
	Bureau of Meteorology Outcome 1: Informed safety, security, and economic decisions by Governments, industry, and the community through the provision of information, forecasts, services and research relating to weather, climate and water <i>Program 1.1: Bureau of Meteorology</i> <i>Program 1.2: Modernisation and Extension of Hydrological Monitoring Systems</i>
	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Outcome 1: The long-term protection, ecologically sustainable use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef for all Australians and the international community, through the care and development of the Marine Park <i>Program 1.1: Improving the outlook for the Great Barrier Reef</i>
	Director of National Parks Outcome 1: Conservation and appreciation of Commonwealth reserves through the provision of safe visitor access, the control of invasive species and working with stakeholders and neighbours <i>Program: Parks and Reserves</i>
	<i>Program 1.1: Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment</i>
	<i>Program 1.2: Environmental Regulation, Information and Research</i>

	Outcome 2: Improved capacity of Australian communities and industry to protect the environment by promoting waste reduction and regulating hazardous substances, wastes, pollutants, ozone depleting substances and synthetic
	<i>Program 2.1: Reduction and management of wastes, hazardous substances, pollutants, ozone depleting substances and synthetic greenhouse gases</i>
	Outcome 4: Adaptation to climate change, wise water use, secure water supplies and improved health of rivers, waterways and freshwater ecosystems by supporting research, and reforming the management and use of water resources
	Murray-Darling Basin Authority Outcome 1: Equitable and sustainable use of the Murray-Darling Basin by governments and the community including through development and implementation of a Basin Plan, operation of the River Murray system, shared natural resource management programs, research, information and advice <i>Program 1.1: Equitable and sustainable use of the Murray-Darling Basin</i>
	National Water Commission Outcome 1: Informed decisions by governments on national water issues, and improved management of Australia's water resources, through advocacy, facilitation and independent advice <i>Program 1.1: Water Reform</i>
	<i>Program 4.1: Water Reform</i>
11.00 pm	Adjournment
THURSDAY, 27 MAY 2010	
	Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio
	Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE)
9.00 am	General questions of the Department
	Outcome 1: Reduction of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions including by promoting energy efficiency, adaptation to the impacts of climate change, and negotiation of an effective global solution, through the development and implementation of a national response to climate change; and bilateral, regional and multilateral engagement internationally
	<i>Program 1.1: Reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions</i>
	<i>Program 1.2: Improving Australia's Energy Efficiency</i>
	<i>Program 1.3: Adapting to Climate Change</i>
	<i>Program 1.4: Helping to shape a global climate change solution</i>
	Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator Outcome 1: Administer and regulate the national Renewable Energy Target scheme to encourage increased renewable electricity generation <i>Program 1.1: Renewable Energy Certificate Management</i> <i>Program 1.2: Managing Compliance with Legislation.</i>
11.00 pm	Adjournment

Appendix 2

Documents tabled

Tuesday, 25 May 2010

Ms Kruk, Secretary, amended statements of cash flows for the National Maritime Museum and the Australian Film, Television and Radio School.

Wednesday, 26 May 2010

Senator Ludlam, graph indicating water quality monitoring data at Ranger mine.

Minister Wong, *Australia's Biodiversity and Climate Change*, Summary for policy makers 2009.

Mr Early, Deputy Secretary

Speech by Minister Garrett to the Centre for International & Public Law, ANU, 28 April 2010, *Australia's ambition for the worldwide conservation of whales*
Position paper: *The Future of the International Whaling Commission: An Australian Proposal*.

Mr Freeman, Chief Executive, Murray-Darling Basin Authority, Opening Statement – The Basin Plan.

Thursday, 27 May 2010

Dr Parkinson, Secretary, Secretary's Opening Statement.

Minister Wong, *Impacts of Changes to the Design of the Expanded Renewable Energy Target*, May 2010.

Dr Parkinson, Secretary, Staff Notice 2010/21, *Delay in the introduction of the CPRS*, dated 28 April 2010.

Mr Thompson, Deputy Secretary, *Insulation Industry Assistance Package*, Application Form, May 2010.

