

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**  
**Department of Climate Change**  
**Budget Estimates Hearing–May 2009**

**Written question reference:** CC53a-k

**Outcome/Output:** Response to climate change

**Topic:** Minister's Trip to Paris

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Question:** (Senator Johnston)

- a. What hotel did the Minister stay at while in Paris?
- b. How many nights?
- c. What was the nightly rate?
- d. How many people joined her on this trip?
  - a. Please provide details
- e. Please provide total cost of the journey
- f. Did you offset the carbon emissions of this flight?
- g. If not, why not
- h. If yes, what was the cost?
- i. Have the Minister offset the carbon emissions of any of your flights?
- j. If so, please provide details of the costs and how much emissions were offset.
- k. If not, why not – please list all overseas flights plus approximate emissions assigned to your seat on the basis of the Dept Climate Change calculator.

**Answer:**

- a. Champs Elysees Plaza.
- b. Two nights.
- c. Total cost was EUR1,770 or AUD3,123.35.
- d. Three people travelled with the Minister – one Ministerial Staff member and two Departmental staff.
- e. \$39,049.47 for the Minister and her staff member and \$48,418.25 for Departmental officials. Costs for Departmental staff reflect total costs of their travel for that trip, which included attendance at meetings in London and Bonn in addition to attending the Minister's visit to Paris.
- f. No.
- g. Calculating emissions from government travel is complex and difficult to do in a credible fashion. The Government already reports direct greenhouse gas emissions from selected aviation activities through annual declarations on fuel usage and associated emissions in the energy use in Australian Government Operations report, including the fuel consumed in the operation of the VIP aircraft fleet.
- h. Not applicable.
- i. No.
- j. Not applicable.
- k. See answer to part (g).